The People's Press.

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The People's Press.

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THE DESERTED ROOM.

The fire flames leapt about the logs,
As in the days of old;
About the silent room they played,
In chequer work of gleam and shade.
The Persian carpet on the floor,
Showed its dimmed beauty as of yore;
The portrsits from the walls looked down,
And eye and lip in smile or frown,
The tale she taught them told.

The fire flames leapt about the hearth:
The cricket sang its song;
The ivory notes she loved so much
Lay waiting for her wakening touch;
Her own, or sister flowers, drooped
Where the great crimson curtains looped;
And by her chair her favorite book,
Its place, mute pleading for her, took
To rest, unopened long.

The fire flames leapt about the hearth;
A sense of something gone
Hung heavy on the listening ear,
That used her joyous voice to hear;
The echoes of the silent house
Waiting her flying foot to rouse;
It seemed as ghosts her brightness laid,
In the dull stillness woke and strayed,
And long-lost empire won.

The fire flames leapt, and paled, and died;
And in the eerie gloom
Sad memories gathered round the hearth,
Where she brought joy, and youth, and mirth;
Sad fancies mingling with them said
Old tales of half-forgotten dead;
And baffled prayers and visions met,
With loss, and longing, and regret,
In the deserted room.

—All the Year Round.

GOOD NIGHT.

Good night!
Now the weary rest by right,
And the busy fingers bending
Over work that seems unending,
Toil no more till morning light—
Good night!

Go to rest!
Close the eyes with slumber prest;
In the streets the silence growing,
Wakes but to the watch-horn blowing.
Night makes only one request—
Go to rest!

Slumber sweet!
Blessed dreams each dreamer greet,
He whom love has kept from sleeping
In sweet dreams now o'er him creeping
May he his beloved meet—
Slumber sweet!

Good night!
Slumber till the morning light,
Slumber till the new to-morrow
Comes and brings its own new sorrow.
We are in the Father's sight—
Good night!

From the German of Theodore Korner.

"AS COMPANION TO A LADY."

"I'm very sorry, miss, but I'm only a poor woman myself, and if you can't pay the rent of this room, I don't see as you can afford the rent of the one up stairs."

Here the landlady rubbed her nose viciously upon her apron, and stared straight out of the very dirty window.

As this was evidently a challenge to me to reply, I said, as firmly as I could, a few words which brought out the reason for the woman's visit that morning.

"Am I to understand, then, that you wish me to leave?"

"If you please, miss, at the end of the week, for there's the gent on the first floor would like to have this bedroom."

"Very well, Mrs. Ruddock," I said; "I will find a room elsewhere."

"Thanky, miss," she said sharply; and giving her nose another vicious rub, she left me to my thoughts—and my tears.

For I was weak, faint, and heartsick, and the coins in my purse had dwindled down; so that if I did not succeed in obtaining an engagement in a very few days I had no resource but to creep back to the country and avow my failure.

Just three months since, and we were all so happy in the little country vicarage; and, then, in visiting one of his people, my poor father caught a dangerous fever. While attending him my dear mother was stricken with the same complaint, and before three weeks had passed Minna and I sat in the little study alone, in deep black, for the struggle had been brief, and those we loved lay together in the green churchyard, and we were only intruders now in the little vicarage that had been our home.

We were nearly penniless, too, but a brother clergyman of my father's, quite as poor, came forward and offered us a temporary home till, as he said, some opening should occur for us.

I gladly accepted it for Minna; but for myself I was determined to try great London, and, unaided, battle for myself. In two years John Murray was to come back from Australia to fetch me for his wife, and till then I would be independent. So the day came at last when, with many tears, we two girls had to separate, and with aching heart I left the old Lincolnshire home, and reached the great dreary void of London early one afternoon.

I was not long in finding a place where I could stay, in the shape of a second floor front room in one of those heart-aching streets near the Foundling-streets that echo from morning to night with mournful cries uttered by vendors whose goods it is impossible to surmise, and with the dismal echoing tones of the various organs. So painful were these last to me, that often of an evening, when I have returned from a weary, disheartening search for an engagement, and sat alone and hungry, fearing to spend my money in anything beyond the tea and bread and butter upon which I existed, these doleful strains—cheering, maybe, to some—have had such an effect upon me that I have sat and sobbed till, utterly worn out, I have fallen asleep, to wake, perhaps, hours after, to find it very late, and crawl shivering off to bed.

As the weeks passed on and my advertisements and my fees paid to the various registry offices had been without effect. I used to crawl back to my room, growing more and more disheartened. I was always a plain, sallow-looking girl, and now in my fast-wearing black I began to feel that I was day by day growing more shabby and weary-looking, and that my feeble chances of obtaining a post were growing less and less.

I used to sit and ask myself whether I had tried hard—and I knew I had—but it was always the same. Whether I advertised for a situation as governess, or went from a registry office to offer myself as companion to a lady, it was always the same. I noticed a look of disappointment as soon as I entered the room, for I was neither pretty nor bright-looking, and my mournful black helped to sadden my aspect. It was always the same—the lady did not think I should suit her, and in blank disappointment I had to return.

And now it had come to this—that my landlady had grown as tired of me as the people at the registry offices, where I had more than once been told rudely that I was not likely to get a place as governess or companion, but had better look lower. That afternoon, evidently suspicious of my ability to pay, and perhaps disgusted with my miserable way of living, and afraid I should be left an invalid upon her hands,—she had—rudely, it seemed to me—requested me to leave.

In my present circumstances I was utterly prostrated by the news, for I dared not take lodgings elsewhere; and I could see nothing now but to sell a portion of my scanty wardrobe and go back to beg for assistance from my father's friend.

What a change! and how soon had my hopes of independent action been blighted! I was heartsore as I felt how that in that great city there was wealth being squandered and luxury around me while I was literally starving; for my poor living was telling upon me fast. What should I do? What should I do?

It was with weary iteration I had said those words and wept till tears came no more, and a dull, stolid feeling of despair had come upon me. I had almost shrunk away in the streets from the bright-faced, happy girls I passed, and at times I found myself asking what had been my sin that I should be thus punished.

I lay awake that night for many hours watching the light from the street lamp playing upon my ceiling; and at last, towards morning, the remembrance of words I had often heard came to me with a calm sense of repose, trust and restfulness, and I believe I fell asleep at last with a smile upon my lips, repeating a portion of that comforting sentence ending, "Are ye not much better than they?"

It was a bright, sunshiny morning when I awoke to hear some one knocking at my door, and hurrying on a few things, I answered.

"Ah! I was just a-going to take 'em down again," said my landlady harshly. "Some folks can afford to lay in bed all day; I can't. Here's two letters for you. And mind this, Miss Laurie; I never bargained to come tramping up to the top of the house with letters and messages for you."

"I'm very much obliged, Mrs. Ruddock," I said gently, as I took the letters with trembling hands, while, muttering and complaining, their bearer went down stairs. It seemed very hard then, but I believe it was the woman's habit, and that she was not bad at heart, but warped and cankered by poverty, hard work and ill-usage from a drunken husband, whom she entirely kept.

One letter I saw at a glance was from Minna, the other was in a strange crabbed hand; and I longed to read them; but exercising my self-denial, I dressed, I lit my fire, and prepared my very frugal breakfast before sitting down and devouring Minna's news.

What right had I to murmur as I did last night, I asked myself, when she was evidently so happy and contented? and then I opened, with fluttering hand, the other letter, and was puzzled by it at first; but at last I recalled the fact that three weeks before I had answered an advertisement in the *Times* where a lady wanted a companion.

The note was very brief and curt and ran as follows;

"If Miss Laurie is not engaged she can call upon Mrs. Langton Porter, 47 Morton street, Park Village South, at eleven o'clock to-morrow (Thursday)."

"At last!" I said to myself joyfully, and with beating heart I prepared myself for my journey, for the appointment was for that morning

Just as I had pretty well timed myself for my walk a sudden squall came on, the sky was darkened, snow fell heavily, and in place of a morning in spring we seemed to have gone back into winter, for the snow lay thickly in a very short time, and the branches of the trees in the squares were whitened.

Weak as I was, this disheartened me, but I fought my way bravely on, and just at eleven rang timidly at the door of an important looking house, and was superciliously shown, by a stout, tall footman in drab livery, into a handsomely furnished room. Everything in the place I noticed was rich and good; heavy curtains hung by window and door, skins and Eastern rugs lay on the polished wood floor, and a tremendous fire blazed in a great brassfire-place, and the flames danced and were reflected from the encaustic tiles with which it was surrounded.

"I'll take your note in," said the footman, as I handed it. "You can sit down."

I preferred to stand, and as soon as I was alone I shivered with fear and cold, as I caught a glance of my pale, sallow face in a great mirror. Every moment I expected to see the owner of the place, but I remained standing wearily for an hour, and then I sighed and turned wistfully to look at the door, wondering whether the footman had taken in the note which I had given him as my passport.

I started, for close behind me, having entered unheard, was a rather plump tall lady in black. She was dressed as if for going out, and well wrapped in furs.

"Oh! you are waiting," she said, harshly, and a shade of displeasure crossed her face as she looked full at me till my eyes dropped. "There, Miss—Miss—Miss—"

"Laurie," I suggested.

"Yes, yes; I know," she said, sharply; "it is in my note. Pray, why in the name of common sense did you not sit down? Take that chair. Now, then, have you been companion to a lady before?"

"No, madam," I replied; and then in answer to her questions, all very sharply given, I told her so much as was necessary of my story.

"I don't think you will suit me," she said; "I've had misery enough, and I want some one cheerful and pleasant, a lady whom I can trust and who will be a pleasant companion. There, I'm sure there's not such a body in London, for the way I've been imposed upon is dreadful! I've had six in six months, and the number of applications I have had nearly drove me out of my senses. I've had one since you wrote me—a creature whose sole idea was herself. I want one who will make me her first consideration. I don't mind what I pay, but I want some one tall and ladylike; and you are not pretty, you know."

I shook my head sadly.

"Humph! Well" she went on, "you won't be so giddy and be always thinking of getting married. There, you need not blush like that; it's what all the companions I have had seem to think about. You don't, I suppose?"

"I am engaged to be married," I said, hanging down my head, "in a couple of years."

"Ho! Well, he mustn't come here, for I'm a very selfish, pragmatical old woman; and if I engaged you—which I don't think I shall do—I should want you all to myself. What is he?"

"A settler—abroad," I faltered.

"Ho! That's better; and perhaps he'll settle there altogether without you."

I looked at her indignantly, and she laughed.

"Ah! I know my good girl. I haven't lived to eight and forty for nothing. How old are you?"

"Twenty," I said, shivering, for her rough way repelled me, and I longed to bring the interview to an end.

"Why, the girl's cold," she said roughly. "Hum, twenty! Here, go up to the fire and have a good warm. It's dreadful weather. There, pull off your bonnet and jacket. Put them on that chair, and go closer to the fire; I've a deal to say to you yet, for I'm not going to engage any young person and have to change directly."

I obeyed her, trembling the while, for I was very weak; and she went on asking me questions and making comments.

"I don't like your appearance at all; you look pale and unhealthy. Not a bit like a girl from the country."

"I am very sorry," I said; "but, indeed, ma'am, I have excellent health."

"Then your face tells stories about you. You play, of course?"

"Yes, ma'am."

"You're warm now. Go and play something. Can you sing?"

"Yes, ma'am."

"Then sing, too; and look here, Miss—Miss—Miss—"

I was about to tell her my name, but remembering the last rebuff, I was silent.

"Now, look here, my good young lady, how am I to remember your dreadful name? What is it?

"Laurie, ma'am," I replied.

"Of course it is; I remember it quite well. Now go and play and sing something, and mind, I don't want my ears deafened with fireworks, and the drums split with parrot-shriek bravuras. Sing something sweet and simple and old-fashioned, if you can," she added ungraciously.

I crossed the room and sat down to the magnificent piano, and for the next five minutes I seemed to be far away, down in the old home, as I forgot where I was, in singing my poor dead father's favorite old ballad, "Robin Adair;" while, as I finished, I had hard work to keep back the tears.

"Ro—bin A—dair," she said, as I rose, in a not unpleasing voice. "Now let me hear you read. I always make my companion read to me a great deal; and mind this, I hate to hear any drone like a school girl. Go over there into the corner of the window and stand there. Take that book; you'll find the mark left in where Miss Belleville—bah! I believe her name was Stubbs and her father a green-grocer—left off. Now then, begin."

She pushed a lounge-chair close up to the window and sat down with her hands in her muff, while I stood there, feeling like a school girl and ready to drone, as I began to read with flattering voice what happened to be Thackaray's most beautiful chapter—The death of poor old Colonel Newcombe. I knew my voice trembled at times, and a strange sense of choking came upon me as I went on battling, oh, so hard to read those piteous heart-stirring lines! But I was weak and suffering, I was faint with hunger and exertion, sick with that despair of hope deferred; at last the room, with its costly furniture, seemed to swim around before me, a cold perspiration bathed my face, and with a weary sigh I caught feebly at the curtains and then fell heavily upon the polished floor.

I have some faint memory of being lifted and wheeled in a chair whose castors I heard chirrup to the front of the fire, and then, as my senses began to return, I seemed to feel arms round me and a pleasant voice saying, half aloud:

"And she just lost her poor father, too—to set her to read such a thing as that! I declare I'm about the wickedest, most thoughtless and unfeeling old woman under the sun."

Then there was the refreshing odor of a vinaigrette, and the sick feeling began to pass away.

"I—I beg pardon," I faltered, trying to rise.

"I beg yours my dear," she said, tenderly. Sit still, sit still. Now, then, try and drink that."

Some sherry was held to my lips and then I was almost forced to eat a biscuit. They, however, rapidly revived me, and I found Mrs. Porter had torn off her bonnet and mantle and was kneeling by my side.

"That's better, my dear," she said, smiling at me, as she passed her arm around me and drew me nearer to her and kissed me, in a gentle, motherly way. And now this was too much, for I was weak and hysterical. I could fight against harshness, but her tender words and ways unlocked the floodgates of my grief, and I laid my head down and sobbed as if my heart would break.

An hour later, after she had literally forced me to partake of the breakfast that was ordered up, she sat beside me, holding my hand, and more than once I saw the tears steal down her pleasant face, as she won from me, bit by bit, the story of my troubles and my bitter struggles here in town.

At last I rose to go, trembling and expectant. Would she engage me? It was more than I dared to hope.

"Sit still, my child," she said, tenderly, "It has pleased God to make me—a childless, widowed woman—his steward over much wealth, and if I did not make this a home for one of his tempest-smitten lambs, I should be a worse woman than I think I am. Stay with me. We shall be the best of friends."

I stayed—stayed to know her real worth and to win her motherly love—stayed to find, when John Murray returned, that his love was greater for my sister than for me, and patiently resigned my love to her, and then battled with a long illness when they had gone together to the far-off home. But every day gave me a new lesson on not judging too hastily. That is ten years since; and I am still in my peaceful, happy home, though only "as companion to a lady."

THE FANDANGO.

HOW IT IS DANCED IN SPAIN—THE MUSIC AND THE DANCERS.

A contributor to the New York *Evening Post*, in describing the district around Malaga, Spain, writes as follows:—

On our return to the village we found it full of life and motion. There were to be two balls given in honor of the great national saint's day. There was a fine moon in a cloudless sky. Groups of idlers in gala dresses were walking to and fro, and from many a window lights shone forth, and the sound of merry-making could be heard. We proceeded first to the fonda or village inn. Here, in a dingy apartment, a small bar held forth enticements in the way of coffee, aguardiente, liquors, etc. to all who entered, and in close proximity the courtyard, its entrance decked with a solitary lantern, offered the scene of operations for the night. But the crowd was great, the region of the roughest, and the company of that lively, demonstrative class who might have tossed Sancho in his blanket in the days of old, and having broken his neck, thought of it afterwards as only a trivial casualty. We decided, therefore, to seek a less plebeian scene at the village schoolmaster's.

The school-room, where the aristocratic ball was to be held, was a long, low apartment, well lighted, and packed with young and old; about the open door loitered a crowd of riff-raff, over whose battered sombreros a boy on horseback craned his neck to see what was going on. At one end of the room stood the master's desk, and the walls were decorated with maps and samples of penmanship; at the other end shone resplendent the family fire-place, bright with suspended pots and pans and gaudy delf. As strangers, we were cordially received, and places given us in the front row of seats, at the very feet of the dancers. Now, one characteristic of a Spaniard is that he cannot praise and boast of himself he will of his own friend, and so shine by borrowed lustre; and we had heard all day, to our infinite amusement, the explanations of our companion to his village acquaintances as to who and what we were—"Americans," he had emphatically announced, "from the great Republic." I learned that I had personally been Secretary to the President, and last, but far from least, that both of us knew Latin! To know Latin, is, in the estimation of a Spanish peasant, equivalent to being next door to heaven and first cousin to the parish priest. So it is easy to imagine how we shone!

But to the dance! The music on the present occasion consisted of two pairs of castanets, a pair of cymbals and a violin, accompanied by the singing of a stout woman in the corner, and the rhythmic clapping of hands, thrown in like a gratuitous blessing by the surrounding spectators. Immediately before us sat a number of pretty young girls, neatly dressed, and with those usual adornments of Southern women, magnificent black hair decked with flowers, and sparkling soft dark eyes. A young man occupied the floor, or rather the very small part of it left by the crowd for the performance of the dance, while another sat in reserve near by to relieve him when fatigued; for, though there were a dozen or more female dancers waiting to perform, there were only two partners to be divided between them. The fandango, or national dance of Spain, portrays the passion of love, and its successful rendition depends as much on the individual talents of the performers as that of a play upon its actors. The young man before us was of a fine athletic form, well displayed in his Andalusian costume, with a crimson scarf bound tightly around his waist, a velvet sombrero, a jaunty vest, and white stockings reaching from the tasselled knee, glittering with its silver buttons, down to his shapely feet. He stood a little while looking around with a bandit air, and then approached a young girl and signified his lordly will to dance. She rose, and they fell back into the middle of the arena. Then began the dance, for which the audience composed themselves with nearly as much anticipated pleasure as for a bull-fight. With castanets in either hand, and arms rising or falling at the moment's impulse, the dancers began swaying backward and forward, now advancing, now retiring in languid undulatory movements; sometimes there would be a sudden passionate start, subsiding into coy reluctance; sometimes a sweep around each other's persons, thus changing their point of attack or vantage ground; sometimes there would come a quick and impetuous movement of daring, entreaty, or coquettish allurement, relapsing into the wave-like dance charming beyond expression, while through it all the shrill, crude music shrieked and wailed, the beating of the hands told time, and sharp cries of Ola! Ola! rang through the room as the audience waked to the passion of the play, and the actors warmed into the true dramatic meaning of the dance. When, subdued by the mimic suit of her partner, the maiden touches his shoulders on either side with the tips of her fingers, the andango ends.

STEEL PENS.

HOW THEY ARE MADE.

Steel pens are manufactured from the best description of steel that can be obtained, that made from Swedish iron being usually employed in its manufacture. For making a steel pen, the metal is first rolled, while red-hot, into plates about three feet in length and four inches broad. The plates are annealed by being made hot and slowly cooled, and all oxide is removed from their surfaces by immersing them in diluted sulphuric acid, which dissolves it away. The plates are then rolled into sheets the thinness of a steel pen. These sheets are cut into pieces, and are afterwards punched out into flat pieces, the size and shape of the future pen, care being taken, in doing this, that the length of the pen should correspond with the fibres of the metal. The hole at the end of the nib, and the side slits that give flexibility to the pen are now made, and are cut at a small press. Although in its present state the steel of which the future pen is made is so soft that it may be bent between the fingers like lead, yet it is not sufficiently soft for the process it has to undergo before it assumes a perfect state, and then it is again softened by annealing. This is performed by again exposing them to heat and allowing them to cool slowly. When this is done, the name or trade-mark of the manufacturer, ornamental device, or other impression is stamped on the surface of the metal. Up to this time the future pen is perfectly flat; it is now made to assume its curved state. For this purpose it is placed in a groove beneath a press, and a convex die descending powerfully on it bends the metal in the required shape. The pens are hardened by exposing them to a white heat and then suddenly throwing them into a vessel of oil, any oil that may adhere to them being afterwards removed by shaking them in a cylinder. It is now necessary to temper the metal to the degree of elasticity required for writing. For this purpose the pens are placed in a cylinder closed at one end, which revolves over a charcoal fire; this process being not unlike the manner in which coffee berries are roasted. By being exposed to this heat the surface of the steel changes its color. It becomes a grey, a straw-color, a brown and, as the process is continued, a deep blue. The pens are then placed in a metal cylinder containing the powder from broken crucibles, sand, &c., and caused to revolve rapidly, by which means the surface of the metal becomes perfectly clear and bright. After this the backs of the nibs of the pens are ground. This is done by applying them for an instant, one by one, to the surface of a revolving wheel. Then the slit between the nibs is cut, by means of a small die press. The steel pen is now finished, and only requires to be colored brown or blue, by exposure to heat until it assumes the tint required. The pens are then varnished, by being dipped into shellac, dissolved with spirits of wine or naphtha, and exposed to a moderate heat to dry them.

GERMAN SOLDIERS.

HOW THE EMPEROR'S TROOPS ARE TRAINED.

A correspondent writes:

The broad outlines of German military economy, the principles on which the machinery of war are created, organized and set in motion are sufficiently well known. But we are less thoroughly informed about the training of the private soldier, about the processes by which a raw recruit is transmuted into an effective, integral, and automatic unit of the company and the battalion. It was just this matter which a staff officer in the Russian army—Colonel Kaulbars—was sent to Germany to study, and upon which he has lately published a report in a Russian official journal. The facts collected by him have attracted much attention from the French and English press, and a glance at some of them may aid us to understand the perfection of the German army as an instrument of combat.

The striking point of the whole system—next to the rigorous application of universal liability—is the short term of active service. From this principle the axiom is deduced that not a moment is to be wasted in stage effects, the flourish and strut to which so much time is given in an English barrack yard, the sole aim of training being to promptly render the conscript an efficient soldier in the field. Of the many divers ways, however, by which this conversion of the inexperienced civilian into the accomplished combatant may be compassed, the special method chosen by the instructor is a matter of absolute indifference provided the end be attained. The degree of independence and responsibility thus devolved upon the company commander is another remarkable feature of German military education. To illustrate the extraordinary freedom from interference enjoyed by the trainer of raw material, Colonel Kaulbars cites the case of a General whom he heard express to a captain a strong disapproval of the latter's method. The commander paid no attention to the stricture, and at the inspection of his company, which took place presently, came off with flying colors, whereupon the General owned his error and publicly congratulated the captain upon his superior sagacity. We are further told that sometimes two captains of the same battalion will be carrying out rival systems of training, their superior officers watching both without the slightest intervention, but leaving the question of fitness to the result of the inspection.

The country needs a supply of soundly drilled, but not elaborately finished soldiers, out of which to construct its battalions, regiments, etc., and to create these units is the captain's work. Accordingly, the recruit, on joining is handed over to the latter as a stick of green wood, to be returned at a fixed date as a pliant, seasoned, manufactured implement. Processes will be wholly disregarded; intentions will go for nothing; the authorities will look to results only, on which depend the present standing and future advancement of the manufacturer. But the captain, though responsible for the work, and compelled to expend an immense amount of thought, anxiety and trouble on a seemingly small field of labor, is not the executive; the chief instructor is one of his lieutenants, chosen by himself, the other trainers being taken from among the non-commissioned officers. It is the captain's duty, however, to teach these instructors how to teach; he has to provide not only for drill, but musketry, gymnastics and theoretical knowledge, there being no specialists in a German barrack yard to whom any part of the work is intrusted; the company officers do it all. In their turn these subordinate instructors, once chosen, enjoy substantial independence, and a faulty selection may therefore ruin a year's work. From this judicious distribution of responsibility it results that nowhere in the world does "awkward squad" training receive such strenuous and fruitful attention as in Germany.

From the time of a recruit's joining, which takes place in November, an old soldier or non-commissioned officer is told off as his compulsory companion; the conscript must deposit his money in the captain's hands, and give this officer a full accounting in writing of his past life, which, owing to the territorial system of enlistment, can be easily verified. Worked but lightly during the first few days, the recruit soon finds himself with little or no time at his own disposal, not less than ten hours a day being exacted for drill and instruction during the fourth week of service. This strenuous training goes on in the hands of the captain and his assistants, until the middle or end of February, when the first authentic test of the recruit's competence takes place. Throughout the German army, says Colonel Kaulbars, the inspection of the recruits forms one of the most important events of military life, exciting the liveliest interest, not only among the officers of each regiment, but of all officers in the garrison. It is conducted by the colonel of the regiment, in presence, however, of the General commanding, the army corps, and often of the Emperor, and everything is carried out with the utmost precision and formality. There is nothing farcical or perfunctory in these proceedings, as is too often the case in other countries. The inspection takes place during the actual course of instruction, and not after it is concluded. No time is lost in preparing for the inspecting officer before his arrival on the ground, nor is any special preparation possible, since no fixed day is set apart for the test, and notice of it is only given on the previous evening to those concerned. In a word, the scrutiny to which the German recruit is subjected is exhaustive, sharp and trustworthy.

The same shrewd expedient of localized responsibility and scrupulous non-interference with the specific officer in charge is adopted for each stage or period of instruction. As the commanding officer of the battalion does not venture to thwart or advise his captains, so no interposition or even suggestion is offered by the colonel of the regiment when the former is working companies together in battalion formation. But because the recruit has advanced a step in his education, he is not suffered to forget what he has already mastered, or to outgrow the automatic abandonment of self to the volition of his company commander, and, therefore, after he has begun to drill in battalion he still finds himself three days a week under his captain's hand in company work. It is by this unique combination of the development of individual initiative on the part of every officer, with complete self-surrender on the part of the private soldier, that the Germans have sought to make their army at once the toughest and most flexible of instruments, to adjust it to the onerous, intricate, and unforseen requirements of the modern battlefield.

HEIGHT AND WEIGHT.

SOME INTERESTING STATISTICS.

Dr. Duncan writes:

You ask a very practical question: "How much should a person of a given height weigh—is there a standard between height and weight?" A healthy child, male or female, grows in length by more than one-half its size during the first two years; it increases from 50 cent. (19,683 inches) to about 79 cent. (31.10 inches.) It trebles or quadruples its weight—that is to say, it weighs 3 to 4 kil. at birth (equals 7½ to 10 pounds); 10 kil. (25 lbs.) in the first year; 12 kil. (30 lbs.) in the second.

"On the average, a child (from 6 months to 8 years) grows in length about 6 cent. each year (equal to 2.4622 inches); the weight of the body goes on increasing to the eighth year, rising in boys to 20 kil. (50 lbs.) and in girls to 19 kil. (47½ lbs.) From this age (8 years) until puberty boys increase in height 55 cent. (2.165 feet) each year, reaching, at the age of 12 years, a height of 138 cent. (over 4.52 feet), and girls 135 cent. (4.421 feet), on the average. Boys gain about 2 kil. (5 lbs.) in weight per year, girls a little more, so that in the twelfth year children of both sexes weigh on the average about 30 kil. (75 lbs.)

"From 13 to 20 years, youths grow some 30 cent. (11.8 inches), girls 20 cent. (7.8 inches). The increase of weight is even more rapid than before, reaching 58 kil. (145 lbs. in boys 18 years old, and in girls of the same age 51 kil. (127½ lbs.)

"In the 25th year, the man is 168 cent. (over 5½ feet) in height and weighs 63 kil. (157½ lbs.) while the woman is 157 cent. (5.15 feet) in height and weighs 53 kil. (127½ lbs.) Man in the 40th year attains his maximum weight, 63.6 kil. (158 lbs.) and then begins to loose flesh. Women continue to grow heavier, reaching about 50 kil. (140 lbs.) until the 50th year. Between 45 and 60, men become more corpulent and women rapidly grow older; in both, the size of the body diminishes." (Wagner.)

It is desirable for all persons, whether suffering in health or otherwise, to know, as near as possible, what the normal weight should be. We are indebted to the late Dr. Hutchinson for weighing alone 2,600 men at various ages. There is, indeed, an obvious relation between the height and the weight he so pertinaciously weighed and measured; starting with the lowest men in the tables, it will be found that the increased weight was, as nearly as possible, five pounds for every inch in height beyond sixty-one inches.

The following figures show the relative height and weight of individuals measuring five feet and upwards:

Stature.	Weight. lbs.
5 feet 1 inch, should be . . .	120
5 feet 2 inches, should be . . .	126
5 feet 3 inches, should be . . .	133
5 feet 4 inches, should be . . .	136
5 feet 5 inches, should be . . .	142
5 feet 6 inches, should be . . .	145
5 feet 7 inches, should be . . .	148
5 feet 8 inches, should be . . .	155
5 feet 9 inches, should be . . .	162
5 feet 10 inches, should be . . .	169
5 feet 11 inches, should be . . .	174
6 feet, should be	178

—M. Babinet, of the French Institute, gave this test for distinguishing colorless gems from diamonds:—If a person looks through a transparent stone at any small object, such as the point of a needle or a little hole in a card, and sees two small points or two small holes, the stone is not a diamond. All white colorless gems, with the exception of a diamond, he held, made the object examined appear double. In other words, double refraction, whenever exhibited by a stone, is proof conclusive that it is not a diamond.

Varieties.

—The individual chiefly anxious to see the rule laid down is the schoolboy.

—The ladies of the higher class in Spain attend the bull-fights in far less numbers than formerly.

—The New York dairymen will hold a State association fair at Utica on the 14th and 15th of October.

—Almost the last words of Earl Russell were:—"I have made mistakes, but in all I did my object was the public good."

—Montana Indians are becoming more and more civilized. They are making rails, enclosing land and grinding flour.

—Mr. Mackenzie Wallace has won, by his book on Russia, the Langlos prize of 3,000 francs from the French Academy.

—One of three burglars recently arrested in a town in Ohio was discovered to be a young woman of 17, who has worn male attire for five years.

—It was decided in a Perthshire court in a case involving the legal kinship of relatives, that a brother is nearer of kin to a sister than is a father.

—A jeweller in the Paris Exhibition shows a necklace which purports to be a mixture of true pearls and false, and challenges anybody to single out the real.

—The grasses of the country are being analyzed by Professor Collier, of the Agricultural Department at Washington, to ascertain their nutritive qualities.

—Drought in certain provinces of Brazil has caused a severe famine. It is reported that in the City of Aracaty, 664 persons died of hunger between the 10th and 18th of February.

—Many European fetes were postponed by the death of King George of Hanover. The deceased monarch's fortune, which is "administered" by the German Government, is estimated at £2,400,000.

—Last year there were in Ireland 25,078 marriages, 139,498 births and 93,509 deaths; 38,503 persons emigrated, so that, without making any allowance for immigration, there was a gain of 7,486 in the population of 5,338,906.

—A steam saw and grist mill at Worthington, Minn., is run with twisted hay for fuel, instead of coal or wood, this device of the Mennonites being found to answer perfectly, being much cheaper than any other fuel and quite as good for heating purposes.

—According to the decision of a Liverpool court, the third officer of a steamer is bound to go aloft and bend sails, if so ordered by the captain, in the capacity of boatswain. For refusing to do this work the third mate of the Sirius has been fined two days' pay and sent to jail for a day.

—The duplex system of telegraphy has been introduced into England and applied successfully to the Wheatstone automatic instruments. On Derby Day between Epsom and London, in one hour, 219 messages were sent and 139 received, and probably a speed of 400 messages could have been attained had there been more to receive.

—It was not believed that the Paris Exhibition of 1878 would be a financial success, yet the Government Commissioners already feel that they are out of financial difficulty. The cost of buildings and maintenance is estimated at about $9,000,000, and a revenue of nearly $7,000,000, is already assured. The attendance has exceeded expectations.

—George Betts, a clergyman's son, aged fourteen, and a friend set out at Lansing, Mich., not long ago to spend an afternoon shooting at a mark with their loaded revolvers. Returning home young Betts, in a tragic manner, cried: "You villain, die!" and snapped his pistol at his companion, who told him not to do so again, as some one might get hurt. Betts then held the revolver to his own temple to show it was empty, fired, and fell dead.

—The corruption in the Russian army reveals itself daily in more startling forms as the examination at Odessa progresses. One colonel received from the Government 60,000 roubles for flour falsely said to have been blown away by a sudden storm. A general gave receipts for 30,000 imaginary tons of hay, and shared in the money paid for it. Five thousand tons of biscuits were found to have been made simply of plaster and sand. Receipts given by officers for sums varying from 30,000 to 50,000 roubles on account of mythical forage or provisions were exceedingly numerous.

—An Englishman named George Thompson recently had a terrible experience in the Alps, where he attempted to ascend the Faulhorn without a guide. He climbed up the mountain until he attained a position from which he dared not advance or retreat, and remained there five days and six nights, subsisting on such roots and herbs as he could gather. At last, growing desperate, he slid down the mountain on his back, and, more dead than alive, managed to crawl into a cottage, where he was fed and kindly cared for.

—At the Missouri State Prison, at Jefferson City, during the last six months of their term, prisoners that have been well-behaved are allowed to go out and work in the city as teamsters, laborers, etc. They are perfectly free, and are not under any supervision by guards. Of course at night they have to return to the penitentiary. While in the city they are not allowed to enter any stores or saloons; if this regulation is infringed they are immediately confined to the prison. Attempts at escape while thus working free from all surveilance have been very rare, for should they be recaptured, they have to serve a double term under more stringent rules and regulations.

The People's Press.

SALEM, N. C.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 1878.

NOTICE.—All persons indebted to this office, by *note* or *account*, would confer a special favor by calling and settling, as we need money.

CLUBS.—We will club the *Press* and the *Carolina Farmer*, published in Wilmington, for $2 75 a year; or $1 50 for six months.

☞ Vote early and *work* early and late.

☞ *Work* hard before the election. It will avail nothing to regret the result.

☞ It is the duty of every good Conservative-Democrat to-day to be at the polls.

☞ The Conservative-Democracy stands squarely opposed to the corruptions of the Republican party.

☞ Watch your tickets closely, Conservative-Democrats. There are fraudulent tickets afloat!

☞ The National party only announces in its platform what the Democrats have repeatedly affirmed. Nationals will not amount to much in this campaign.

☞ Do not be deceived by the name of the new party, comparatively unknown. It's a device to catch votes. Beware!

☞ As a Greenback party the Conservative Democracy is not a step behind the National party.

☞ The Republicans have printed *mixed* tickets to deceive the people.

☞ Conservative Democrats should not allow themselves to be lured away from their party organization.

☞ The object of the *National* party so called, is to take from the Democratic party and to disorganize the same, if possible. It is a Republican movement; but the Republicans will stick to their *party* ticket, and laugh at the Democrats whom they may have deceived.

☞ Have good, reliable, active, wide-awake men at the polls. Examine your tickets in the morning, and see they have the right names thereon. *False Tickets* have been printed with the name of William M. Cocke in place of James C. L. Gudger, of the Ninth District. Discard all such.

☞ The Conservative-Democracy is in favor of plenty of Greenbacks, opposed to all manner of fraud and corruption, and endorses the principles of the *new party*, which has been started on the eve of the election, as it were, to deceive and ensnare the unwary.

Vote your regular party ticket.

Tell Tale Figures.

Extravagance and corruption seem to be inherent in Radicalism wherever found. The Washington *Post*, an excellent Democratic paper of Washington city, shows how the Democratic majority in the House of Representatives have in three years, by following the principles which have always governed the party, saved the people millions of dollars.

It is a well known fact that it cost the U. S. Government from the first year of its existence to 1876, $6,566,572,860 66 for all purposes. During the war, commencing with 1862 and reaching to 1866 the sum of $3,636,929,581 64, while from the beginning of the Government to 1862, a term of 82 years, there was expended $1,506,726,141 15, or less than half as much. From 1866 to 1876 ten years, the sum of $1,528,917,137 87 was expended for Government purposes. Then, during 5 years of the war, the Radicals expended $2,025,203,540 49 more than it cost to run the Government for the whole period of its existence, 82 years, during which it is known the Democrats mainly controlled it.

The average, per annum, for the ten years of Radical rule since the war was $152,891,713.78, while the average of Democratic rule before the war was only $57,287,226.05. This shows an increase of 167.59 per cent. for the ten years of Radical rule over ten years of Democratic rule.

Taking as a basis the census of 1860, the cost *per capita* for the not ordinary expenses of the Government for the ten years of Democratic rule $13.21; while on the basis of the census of 1870, the cost *per capita* under the ten years of Radical rule was $39.65.—*Ral. Observer.*

MEXICAN MATTERS.—The *News'* Fort Clark special says, last night Mexicans from Los Vacos, Neade county, fired shots in San Felipe, Texas, retaliating for having been pursued the day before by Capt. Kelly, of the United States army, who took from them some stolen stock. There is great excitement. Parson Potter, of frontier fame, shot and wounded a Mexican last night while in the act of stealing his horses. Escobedo is condemned to be shot, but this will not give peace on the borders.

THE INDIANS.—A Portland dispatch says the rendezvous for all the unfriendly Indians, both on the Oregon and Washington Territory side, is at the foot of Priest rapids, where they are collecting in great numbers. Chief Moses says he cannot control his young men and warns settlers to look out for themselves.

GOOD NEWS FOR TOBACCO MEN.—The New York *Bulletin* makes the important announcement in a letter from Washington that "the British tariff laws have been recently so constructed as to admit American manufactured tobacco at rates of duty which will permit a large export of that article and materially benefit that branch of manufacture in this country. Our ordinary fine-cut and plug tobacco will be admitted at 4s. 10d per pound, and virgin pure of the same kinds 4s. 4d." This is a most valuable concession to the tobacco manufacturers and tobacco growers of the United States and must result in an improvement of that trade that will give improvement to thousands of persons.—*Norfolk Virginian.*

The Shelbyville *Democrat* hits the bull's-eye when it says: "The Republicans are very much alarmed lest the Democrats if they get in complete control of the Government, will make a raid on the Treasury and bankrupt the country. In other words, having stolen the hide, the tallow and the meat, they are dreadfully afraid the Democrats may make away with the horns and hoofs."

SEASONABLE HINT.—W. C. Kerr, in the Raleigh *Farmer and Mechanic*, says: "In a small town in the mountains of North Carolina, not twenty years old, five cases of typhoid fever occurred in one family. The intelligent physician in attendance traced the trouble to the well, which was poisoned by the infiltration of drainage from a neighboring stable. These zymotic poisons do not reveal themselves to the senses. Often, in fact, the most sparkling and pleasant waters owe their popularity to that which makes them deadly.

CROPS IN NORTH CAROLINA.—The wheat crop was badly damaged by rust, though the increased acreage may compensate for this. Oats also damaged by rust, but in this section the oat crop was fine. Clover and the grasses have done well. The Irish potato crop never was finer and more abundant. Peaches are plenty but mostly inferior in quality. Apples will be very scarce in this section. The grape crop will be abundant.

The impurities that make water injurious to health are organic matters, such as are abundantly supplied by barnyards, drains and cemeteries, where the decay of animal and vegetable substance is going on. Some families who live on farms, and who fancy they are drinking the best of water, are, in fact constantly imbibing poison that will appear, perhaps in the dreaded form of diptheria or typhoid fever.—*Scientific American.*

The Peabody Fund.

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction, J. C. Scarborough, Esq., has received from Dr. Sears, the Agent of the Peabody Fund, $2,200 more. Of this $1000 is for the use of Raleigh; $600 for the white graded school, and $400 for two colored graded schools. The white schools get $400 less than last year, while the colored schools get $100 less.

The $200 remaining is for the Fayetteville schools, being $250 less than the amount allowed them last term.

Dr. Sears writes the Superintendent that the reason of the decrease is a falling off of 40 per cent. in the income of the fund. He states that he is greatly pressed for means, and that the allowance to North Carolina this year will not exceed $3,500, including Normal schools, which last year were given $500 each. He says the University at Chapel Hill ought to be allowed $500, as usual.

These statements are rather discouraging in view of the fact that for some years the allowances to North Carolina have steadily diminished in amount. The efforts made to improve the schools by the present administration have been so vigorous and so earnest that it seems hard that this needed support should be thus withdrawn. The lack of aid from this source is of course felt. All possible support is needed, particularly just at this time, when the work of education is progressing so rapidly, and the cause should not be suffered to languish for want of means.—*Raleigh News.*

A decision of the greatest importance to American manufacturers of tobacco has just been rendered by the British Board of Trade in regard to the importation into Great Britain of the article in the form of "plug" or "fine-cut."—Hitherto both have been debarred from entry at English ports by prohibitions of the strictest character, although cigars exported from this country have been admitted freely, the specific ground for the rejection of the former, being that the "sugar, licorice, molases, glue, copperas and other ingredients used in the manufacture were adulterous and injurious to those using the tobacco—" a pretense, we need hardly say, which it was only too easy to stretch far enough to exclude all American tobacco. A year ago Messrs. Straiton & Storm and the Lorillards, of New York, determined to test the legality of this restriction, and a sample of Mr. Straiton's tobacco having been seized by the British custom officers, as was expected, he brought the matter to the attention of Secretary Evarts, who forthwith laid the case before Earl Derby. The question was considered at length by the British Board of Trade, to which it had been referred by the Earl, and on June 27th a communication was received by the State department at Washington from the British foreign secretary announcing that hereafter under the interpretations of the customs laws by the commissioner of internal revenue, ordinary plug or fine-cut could be imported to England, if unadulterated at the rate of 4s. 10d. per pound and if virgin pure, as were the seized samples, at 4s. 4d. per pound.—*Raleigh Observer.*

The United States government is now paying $1,300,000 a year for rent of buildings in which to transact the public business. The House Committee on Public Buildings reported in favor of constructing buildings at various points to save, as far as possible, this enormous rent. Greensboro is to get $50,000 to erect a public building.—*Wm. Star.*

The Columbus, (Ga.,) cotton factory will soon have in operation in their three factories forty-five thousand spindles and fifteen hundred looms. Where these edifices now stand, twelve years ago there was a pile of rubbish, the remains of war's destruction. These mills, in a short time, will have one thousand and nine hundred persons on the pay-roll, representing a population of 4,500.

If your constitution is broken down, or you find it necessary to purify and cleanse the Blood, use Dr. Bull's Blood Mixture.

Kernersville Letter.

KERNERSVILLE, July 29th, 1878.

Messrs. Editors:—After several weeks of hot, dry weather, we were favored on Saturday evening, and after night, with some fine showers, and the appearance to-day is for more rain.

Some weeks ago, Dr. Bahnson, of your town, assisted by Dr. A. D. Lindsay, of this place, performed an operation upon Mrs. Julius Harmon in the removal of a cancer, and notwithstanding the unfavorable state of the weather, owing to the heat, the lady is about well, and the prospect now is that the effect will be permanent.

Dr. Lindsay had a potato that weighed 22 ounces, and as I had no big potatoes to brag on I'll go into the egg department by way of variety: Some time ago one of our old hens laid an egg very near as large as a goose egg, and then followed the usual complement of ordinary sized ones, finishing off with one the size of a partridge egg. I have them both before me now. The old hen, I presume, considering her mission at an end has gone into retirement, as she refuses to set or lay any more: sensible, isn't it?

The brick walls of J. W. Beard's new store-house are nearly finished, and by fall it will be ready for goods. I see the berry trade is pretty brisk just now.

Julius Harmon is with your townsman, John Nissen, in the neighborhood of Goldsboro, putting up a flour mill. In a letter sent home last week he spoke of the hot and dry weather in that region.

Dr. E. Kerner's new flour mill, about two miles from town, is nearly ready for business. One of the workmen said it would be done by the election. "The "Sapp Brothers" are the consructors; and in passing through the building the other day, I came to the conclusion that every thing was done up in first class style; and that reminds me that when I lived at Friedberg, I used to go to the first Salem Mill, and still known among the old people as the Steiner mill, later Rominger, Hege, and now Stafford. At the time referred to, old Uncle Jacob Hege, who is still living near Pleasant Fork, was the miller, and he always made me good flour, both as to quality and quantity. But on one occasion my good wife said to me, "Suppose you take a turn of wheat to the Salem mill, and tell black 'Dave' to make me some of that *old fashioned* flour." Now *Dave* was a colored man that had been an assistant in the mill as far back as I can remember; his name was Dave Randleman. So when I drove up with my turn of wheat, Dave seemed surprised, and said, "Well, well, have you come back once more." I said, "Yes," and gave him my wife's message, which tickled him mightily. I took my flour home and our bread was all that could be desired. But in the course of time, the old story was repeated, "You must take some wheat to mill." (You see I had it plenty then, which is not the case now.) So off I went, and it so happened that the night before it had rained and the roads were slippery, and "Uncle Jake's" mill was just half-way between Friedberg and Salem. So I quietly turned aside to his mill, and told him to grind my turn till I came back from Salem, and be sure and do his best; and he answered, "That I will;" and with him that meant something. I carried my flour home, but as the baking had been done for that week, some days elapsed before the bread trial was made. And on the next occasion, when fresh bread came on the table, I cut the loaf, and my wife taking a slice and holding it up to the light, remarked, "Well, *Dave has made better flour this time than he ever did before.*" I said, "Do you think so." "Yes; but what makes you look so curious?" Oh, nothing much, only I am so glad that you are pleased with the flour." "I know better," she said, "there is something behind; I can see it in your looks." "No, nothing; only Dave didn't make that flour, Uncle Jake Hege made it." "Well," said she, "I don't care who made it, it is better than the other, and I knew it as soon as I put my hands into it." But this was no disparagement to "Uncle Dave." He was a faithful, honest miller; and he has gone, I have no doubt, where all good darkies go. But, really, mills are getting so plentiful around Kernersville, that the question will be after a while, where is the grain to come from for them all to get something to grind.

And now, I'll answer your correspondent from Clemmonsville, in last week's *Press*: We have made upon the whole, a sorry crop of wheat around here, and until three weeks before harvest the prospect never was better, until the rust set in which blasted the grain. Occasionally, there was a good crop; among the rest, Weslington Johnston, living four miles west from here, on the road towards Friedland, made as good a crop as he ever made; the grain out was good and the grain first-rate. But Mr. Johnston is a man that takes extra pains in putting in his wheat and he always makes good wheat, and every thing else that he puts into the ground seems to turn out well. His neighbors say it is his *luck*, and I reckon it is so.

Some weeks ago I was standing at the depot when the train came by going to Greensboro; it had hardly stopped, when out came a large man who caught me by the hand and almost pulled my arm out of the socket, and I found when I got over my surprise, that it was Mr. J. W. Spainhour, formerly of Stokes, but for the last two years a citizen of Iowa. He came in to make a final settlement of his affairs and to sell the well known old time brick tavern stand built by his father, Solomon Spainhour, more than fifty years ago, when the main road leading across the Blue Ridge was by "Ward's Gap." Uncle Solomon once told me that when he was clearing the ground to put up his first buildings, two travellers came along the road, and he heard one say to the other, "the man that builds here is going to starve;" and yet Uncle Solomon raised a large family, and collected a fine estate during his life time. It was a great stopping place for Western drovers, and sometimes they would propose to leave their bills, going down unsettled till they came back. "No, no," Uncle Solomon would say, "my rule is when you *go down* you *pay down*, when you *go up* you *pay up*." In his public room, over the mantel-piece, he had a large ship painted by a man named Scheler, who was both painter and preacher at the same time, and was said to have been quite an original character. Excursionists going to the Pilot from Salem used to stop with Mother Spainhour, and take an old fashioned German vesper. But the old people are dead, the property has gone into the hands of strangers, and the family are scattering in various directions. "But," said the one referred to above, as he extended the parting hand, "don't't stop writing for the *Press*, for your letters always seem like home."

C. L. R.

Fans are the cheapest luxury of the day. The Chinese have given us an article, well made of bamboo and embellished paper, that may be had for two nickels. When the cost of importation is considered, the pay of labor in China is apparent. Fans are said to have originated in China 3,000 years ago. At a feast of lanterns the lovely Kansi found the heat so oppressive that contrary to all etiquette, she took off her mask. Partly to hide her blushes and partly to cool her heated face, she agitated the mask before her nose. The thing became epidemic. Ten thousand hands at once held ten thousand masks and fanning became a fact.

A bright and beautiful child shows in its very expression that its Babyhood was not associated with Opium, cordials, etc.—for the continued use of Opium is antagonistic to health. That valuable and highly recommended Remedy for the disorders of Babyhood, Dr. Bull's Baby Syrup, is absolutely free from Morphia and all other dangerous agents and can be safely employed at all times. Only 25 cents per bottle.

The firm of Jesse W. Starr & Son, proprietors of the Camden (N. J.) iron works have gone into voluntary bankruptcy, with liabilities amounting to about $400,000. When running on full time these works employed over 1000 men.

Review of the Berlin Treaty.

By the Berlin treaty Russia obtains a great deal less than would have satisfied her previous to the war. Religious liberty, however, to all Christians in the East has been secured. Bulgaria gains its autonomy as a tributary principality, under the suzerainty of the Sultan. Her relations with the Porte will be precisely the same as those that have hitherto existed between Roumania and Turkey. Her future Prince is to be elected by the people, and is not to belong to any reigning European dynasty.

The province of Eastern Roumerlia, which is formed south of the Balkans, will be nominally under the direct political authority of the Sultan, but virtually will have an administrative autonomy and a Christian governor. In the formation of the militia of the country the religion of the inhabitants will be taken into account, and the Christians will be in the majority, there being two of that faith to one Mohammedan.

Bosnia and Herzegovina are to be occupied by Austria. The acquisition of these two provinces will secure for Austria very important military positions, and especially gives the advantage of a backing of solid territory to that narrow strip of land which is called Dalmatia.

Montenegro and Servia are declared independent States; the former annexes the port of Antivari, which will be closed to war ships of all nations. The latter is to get an extension to her frontier. Both States, however, are to bear a share of the Turkish public debt, in proportion to the territory they acquire.

Roumania is declared independent by returning to Russia that part of Bessarabia which she took under the treaty of Paris, and receiving the Dobrudscha in return.

To all these changes the Sultan has given his submission. With European residents or consuls to make up mixed commissions, the checks that can be applied will be sufficient to put an end to the secular side of Mohammedanism.

Greece gets nothing; but the Porte is engaged to supply to Crete the plan of Government of 1868.

England gains by the splendid diplomacy of Beaconsfield more than the mere occupation of Cyprus or the protectorate of Asia, and time can only develop the immense advantages which are to result to her from the decision of the Berlin Congress.

Our Foreign Trade.

The total value of imports for the eleven months ended on May 31, 1878, was $429,749,996. The total value of our exports for the same period was $678,179,785. The excess of exports was $248,429,789. In the exports during these eleven months was included $30,230,997 of coin and bullion, and in the imports $28,329,330 of the same. The excess of coin export is $1,901,667.

The enormous trade balance in our favor, it will be seen, has brought into the country neither merchandise nor money. We have sold two hundred and fifty millions more than we have bought and have nothing whatever to show for it. It has been absorbed in payment of interest, or in redemption of all kinds of American securities held abroad. The total amount of American paper thus held abroad may be estimated when we see the enormous amount of the products of American labor sent abroad for which no foreign products are received in exchange. The balance of trade in our favor simply shows the balance of debt against us. Under the heavy load of that debt, the results of municipal, State and National extravagance and of the waste of the great war, American labor is groaning and all business sympathizes with it.

Duties, says the New Orleans *Picayune* in reference to these facts, support the government; imports pay the duties; exports produce imports; the toiling millions create exports. A note of the leading articles of exports will show who support the Government and pay the principal and interest of the foreign debt. During the ten months ended April 30, exports of cotton amounted to $165,770,256 in value, or 1,477,049,061 pounds, besides cotton goods to the value of $9,138,444. This cotton paid for nearly half the total imports. Tobacco, chiefly Southern, was exported to the amount of $24,364,510. Sugar exports all Southern, were $4,292,539. Lumber, wood and wooden wares $13,893,340, about half of which were produced in the Southern States. Provisions other than grain, such as bacon, beef, butter, lard, cheese, pork, fish, etc., were exported to the amount of $106,744,516, of which $20,000,000 may be credited to the South. Grain and breadstuffs were exported to the amount of $148,945,252, many million bushels of which were sent from the farms of Maryland, the Virginias, Kentucky, Tennessee and Missouri. Exports of leather amounted to $6,154,523; exports of mineral oils amounted to $40,327,828; other oils and oil cake $8,322,226. Exports of cannon, gunpowder, shot, shell and cartridges were $4,779,754. Of iron, steel and manufactures thereof the exports amounted to about $12,000,000. Agricultural implements, $1,850,000; living animals $3,581,000, books $477,600, carriages $803,885, clocks $805,000, coal $1,735,000, copper and copper wares $1,968,000, drugs and dyes $2,324,000, fruits about $1,000,000, furs 2,311,000, glass $688,000 hides $1,000,000, hops $2,049,000, fertilizers $1,069,000, tar, rosin and turpentine $2,020,000, seeds $2,040,000, sewing machines $1,465,000, distilled spirits, $880,000, spirits of turpentine $1,838,000, tallow $5,319,000.

It is not gratifying to American pride that only $134,525,196 in value of our exports were carried in American vessels, while $478,863,085 worth were taken abroad in foreign vessels.—*Raleigh Observer.*

HOW MANY MEN IT TOOK TO CONQUER THE CONFEDERACY.—From the records of the War Department at Washington a statement has lately been compiled, showing the total number of men who served in the Federal armies during the late war, their nativities, etc. The total number of men in the late civil war, on land and sea, was no less than 2,762,401—considerably more than one-third of the whole white population of the Confederacy. Of these 104,948 were in the navy, 178,895 were colored troops, and 870,000 were re-enlistments, leaving 2,110,000 white soldiers for land service.

The intense heat in the North-west has had a favorable effect upon the crops. In Iowa the corn is said to have grown three feet in a week. The wheat is ready for harvesting, but slow progress was making because of the heat, rendering labor in the fields perilous. In Southern Missouri and Kansas much of the wheat crop has been cut by moonlight in order to escape the mid-day heat.

The Results of the Investigation.

WHAT HAS BEEN PROVED SO FAR BY THE POTTER COMMITTEE.

Washington Post.

The Potter committee have proved, beyond successful rebuttal, things believed to be true, but not absolutely proven to be true before, to-wit:

That the electoral votes of Florida and Louisiana, which were given to Hayes, belonged to Tilden. Leaving out of consideration the State of Florida, which no honest man will deny to have been stolen, we will take up Louisiana. As to this State the Potter committee has clearly proved:

1. That a conspiracy was entered into by certain Republican leaders, the object being to hold no election in East Feliciana, Grant and other Democratic parishes.

2. That the fact that no Republican votes were cast in East Feliciana was not due to intimidation, as alleged, but was owing to Anderson's advice to the Republican leaders not to vote, as it would have a better effect than all the affidavits that could be produced.

3. That for a period of two days after the election the Republican leaders admitted that Tilden and Nicholls had carried the State by a heavy majority.

4. That when it became evident that the election of Hayes depended upon the result of the State, deliberate preparations were made for the purpose of defeating the will of the people as expressed at the polls.

5. That in pursuance of this plan, protests, forged and altered to suit the occasion, were made for the parishes of East and West Feliciana, whereby a Democratic majority of over 2,800 was changed to a Republican majority of 500.

6. That the supervisors of the above-named parishes were prevented by promises of reward made by John Sherman and others from exposing such forgeries.

7. That on the 27th day of November, when the returning board proceeded to sum up the result of their labors, it was discovered that while Packard and a Republican Legislature were elected, Hayes was defeated.

8. That after the above date and in order to secure the electoral vote for Hayes, forged protests were made for Richland and other parishes, and the returns from Lafayette and other parishes changed so as to increase the Republican vote.

9. That affidavits bearing fictitious names, and the names of dead men, were manufactured in the custom house, and upon such affidavits various Democratic polls were thrown out.

10. That the acts above recited were known to some of the visiting statesmen and received their approval.

11. That the electoral vote of the State as counted before the two houses of Congress was a forgery.

12. That John Sherman, now Secretary of the Treasury, and at the time the personal representative of Mr. Hayes, was guilty of subornation of perjury.

13. That the leading parties necessary to a completion of the fraud were promised by him protection and reward.

14. That the fraudulent President, in fulfillment of Sherman's and Noyes' promises, has rewarded with office every scoundrel connected with the great crime in both Florida and Louisiana.

15. That Stanley Matthews, a Republican Senator from Ohio, and Justice Harlan, a judge of the Supreme Court, hod guilty knowledge of the fraudulent transactions by which the vote of Louisiana was stolen, and personally interested themselves to reward and protect the criminals.

16. That Senator Morton and General Garfield, both members of the electoral commission, knew when they voted to count the vote of Louisiana for Hayes that it was both fraudulent and a forgery.

17. That Senator Kellogg, who assisted at the forgery of the Louisiana returns, has since been guilty of secreting the witnesses.

18. That not one of the criminals who assisted to perpetuate the colossal crime of the age has been punished, but that all but two—numbering over a hundred—have been provided with office by Mr. Hayes' direct order or request, and in some cases by and through his continued and persistent interference.

With few exceptions these facts are proved, exclusive of the testimony of either Anderson or Weber, notwithstanding that the committee has only fairly entered upon its task.

The Shame and Folly of our Indian Wars.

Gen. Cook, who is one of the best of our Indian fighters, frankly admits that the Indian wars are provoked by the injustice of our Government and its agents in their dealings with the savages. He protests against the official duplicity and dishonesty that are constantly making foes of tribes that, with good treatment, would be disposed to friendliness, and he bitterly alludes to the disagreeable position of the honorable American soldier who is compelled to kill the unfortunate red-skins, knowing them to be more sinned against than sinning. This gallant officer's plain statement commends itself to the attention of all of his fellow-countrymen who have any regard for the national honor. It is also worthy of the consideration of those who, apart from the sentiments of honor and humanity, are anxious to have their country peaceful and prosperous. Among the essentials to the national welfare is the settlement of the Western lands by quiet and industrious emigrants who are willing to apply themselves to agricultural pursuits. But such men are not eager to embark in an industrial enterprise that threatens to bring them in contact with a savage foe; and emigrants who are not afraid of the honest toil and privation attendant upon the cultivation of the wilderness are, with good cause, afraid of subjecting their wives and children to the peril of the Indian bullet, tomahawk and scalping-knife. It follows that the Government's injustice toward the Indians prevents the settlement of those Western lands that are within reach of the raids of hostile tribes, or of tribes that any time may be provoked to hostility. So, the wrong done to the Indians is supplemented by immense wrong done to the best interests of the republic, whose prosperity depends upon the development of the agricultural resources of those vast tracts of unsettled Western territory that are as yet virgin to the plow, but not inaccessible to the foot of the hostile on the war-path. This trouble is aggravated by the weak and ineffective campaigns that year after year are being carried on against the few hundred red-skins that challenge the armies of these United States. If it is necessary to fight them at all, it is equally necessary to fight them into submission; and it could be done if the Government would bring to the purpose an available and competent force into the field. But every campaign is permitted to drag its slow length along, leaving at its close no result attained decisive enough to discourage the enemy from an uprising on the ensuing year. On the contrary, the honors are generally so evenly divided that the sanguine savage feels himself quite capable of coping with his white agressor, and makes it a matter of pride to take up arms against a government that persistently wrongs him, cheats him, lies to him and leaves him to the alternative of starving in peace or take the chances of war. There is not much glory for the soldier in that kind of warfare, while, to the Republic, there is shame and great damage to valuable interests.—*N. Y. Weekly News.*

Information about Sunstroke.

The following report of the sanitary commission of the New York board of health upon sunstroke has been approved and published by the board:

"Sunstroke is caused by excessive heat, and especially if the weather is 'muggy'. It is more apt to occur on the second, third or fourth day of a heated term than on the first. Loss of sleep, worry, excitement, close sleeping rooms, debility, abuse of stimulants, predispose to it. It is more apt to attack those working in the sun, and especially between the hours of 11 o'clock in the morning and 4 o'clock in the afternoon. On hot days wear thin clothing. Have as cool sleeping rooms as possible.—Avoid loss of sleep and all unnecessary fatigue. If working in-doors, and where there is artificial heat—laundries, &c.,—see that the room is well ventilated.

"If working in the sun, wear a light hat (not black, as it absorbs heat,) straw, &c., and put inside of it on the head a wet cloth on a large green leaf; frequently lift the hat from the head and see that the cloth is wet. Do not check perspiration, but drink what water you need to keep it up, as perspiration prevents the body from being overheated. Have, whenever possible, an additional shade, as a thin umbrella, when walking, a canvass or broad cover when working in the sun. When much fatigued do not go to work, but be excused from work, especially after 11 o'clock in the morning on very hot days, if the work is in the sun. If a feeling of fatigue, dizziness, headache, or exhaustion occurs, cease work immediately, lie down in a shady and cool place; apply cold clothes to and pour cold water over head and neck. If any one is overcome by heat, send immediately for the nearest good physician. While waiting for the physician give the person cool drinks of water, or cold black tea, or cold coffee, if able to swallow. If the skin is hot and dry, sponge with or pour cold water over the body and limbs, and apply to the head pounded ice wrapped in a towell or other cloth. If there is no ice at hand, keep a cold cloth on the head, and pour cold water on it as well as on the body. If the person is pale, very faint, and pulse feeble, let him inhale ammonia for a few seconds, or give him a teaspoonful of aromatic spirits of ammonia in two tablespoonfuls of water, with a little sugar."

Cut this article out and preserve it for future emergencies.

A geological knowledge of a man's farm, is as necessary to the farmer as a physiological knowledge of the human system is to the physician, and is much more easily acquired. A day's work and intelligent notes copied into a memorandum book for future reference, stating locality, appearance and character of top surface, noting its faults during all seasons with the underground character, will enable farmers to become masters of the situation.

Rev. John Ingram, of Unst, Scotland, who for forty years has been colleague to his father, Dr. Ingram, preached in Free Greyfriars church, Edinburgh, recently, and, at the request of the congregation, spoke a few words about his father, who in April last entered upon his 103d year, and to-day is said to be the oldest minister in the world.

At Bennettsville, S. C., on Friday last, John Lackler, alias John Revels, and Neill Lackler, alias Neill Revels, both formerly members of the notorious Lowery gang, were convicted of the murder of Frank Bryce, an Irish peddler, in February last, and sentenced to be hung on the 23rd of August next.

Don't be discouraged if your profits are small. If you cannot increase the income, the only way out of the difficulty is to cut down the wants.

George W. Childs, of Philadelphia, says General Grant told him that Tilden had been elected President and ought to have been inaugurated.

A Kansas school ma'am has introduced a new feature in her school. When one of the girls misses a word, the boy who answers it gets permission to kiss her. As a result, the girls are becoming very poor spellers, while the boys are improving.

Pittsburg, Pa., has seventh-three glass factories, thirty-three iron rolling mills, seven white lead factories, twenty-nine oil-refineries, and the coal mines contributing to market number one hundred and fifty-eight.

The New Orleans *Picayune* publishes a statement that fourteen cases of yellow fever have occurred there, seven of which proved fatal.

SOMETHING NEW!

GUIDE BOOK

OF

NORTH-WESTERN

NORTH CAROLINA

CONTAINING A GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SOME TWENTY COUNTIES OF THIS SECTION OF THE STATE, SKETCHES OF THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE STATE, AND OF THE MORAVIANS, TOGETHER WITH OTHER STATISTICAL AND INTERESTING INFORMATION NOT TO BE FOUND ELSEWHERE, ETC., ETC.

PUBLISHED AND FOR SALE BY

L. V. & E. T. BLUM,

SALEM, N. C.

Price 25 Cents per Copy. By Mail 30 Cents.

Salem Boys School.

THE NEXT SESSION OF THIS MORAVIAN CHURCH SCHOOL will open on MONDAY, AUGUST 19th.

This SCHOOL is conducted on the same principles which have obtained for Moravian Schools the reputation they enjoy for thorough instruction and careful moral training, and will be under the immediate supervision of the Rev. EDWARD RONDTHALER, Pastor of Salem Congregation, as Principal of the School.

The COURSE embraces the regular English branches, whilst Music, Drawing, German, Latin and Greek are also taught.

A Gymnasium is attached to the School which gives the scholars opportunity for exercise under the instruction of teachers, without extra charge.

Scholars from abroad can obtain board in private families on reasonable terms.

For terms of tuition apply to either of the undersigned.

REV. EDWARD RONDTHALER, *Principal.*

JAS. T. LINEBACK, *Secretary.*

July 25—3t.

CARPETS, CARPETS,

CARPETS.

THE people of this vicinity have long felt the necessity of having a larger and better assortment of Carpets to select from than has ever been kept in the place before. *That want is now fully supplied.* We have secured the exclusive use of

Richardson's Carpet Exhibitor,

A WONDERFUL INVENTION

for showing Carpets; a brief description of the use of which we give below.

With the use of the CARPET EXHIBITOR, we show from a Sample just how the Carpet looks on a very large room, multiplying the Sample a thousand times, matched and shown as perfect as when the carpet is made up and nailed upon the floor. In this way we are now prepared to show you a

NEW YORK WHOLESALE STOCK.

We have made special arrangements with one of the *Largest Houses* in New York, to fill all our orders for Carpets, and will show you a larger assortment to select from than has ever been kept outside of a wholesale house.

We keep samples of all

NEW AND DESIRABLE PATTERNS

which *are not kept in stock* outside of large cities. This way of buying Carpets has now *become popular*, and we show what you would otherwise have to go to New York to find. We can sell as cheap for *cash* as you can buy for *cash* in New York, and there being no remnants to take off the profits, we are enabled to sell on a very small commission, and most respectfully invite the public to examine our stock, and satisfy themselves.

IF YOU WANT A CARPET

of any dimensions, bring a correct measure of your room and we guarantee to suit you.

Please call and see us, whether you wish to buy or not, as it is no trouble to show goods.

PATTERSON & CO.,

CARPETS, DRY GOODS and GENERAL MERCHANDISE.

Main Street, Salem, N. C.

NEW STYLES OF

Paper & Envelopes,

AT THE BOOK STORE.

Call and examine our excellent stock of paper and envelopes. A large assortment Nov. 8t fine and common on hand, CHEAP

THOS. R PURNELL,

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Will attend to business in the State and Federal Courts. Claims collected in any part of the State.

Floral Autograph Album.

A new and beautiful album, richly illustrated with choice Wreaths and Bouquets of Flowers. The most elegant Birthday Present ever offered at

BLUM'S BOOKSTORE

JOB PRINTING, OF

every description done at this Office, in First Class Style and at reasonable rates.

Trees and Plants.

WE invite the attention of Planters to our large and complete stock of Standard and Dwarf

APPLE TREES,

Standard and Dwarf

PEACH TREES,

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PEAR TREES,

APRICOT, CHERRY, QUINCE NECTARINE, Trees, of the most improved varieties. GRAPE VINES, STRAWBERRY AND RASPBERRY PLANTS.

☞ Our Descriptive Catalogue sent free Address

CRAFT & SAILOR,

Cedar Cove Nursery,

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NEW

NORTH CAROLINA

HAND BOOK,

a guide for Justices of the Peace, Clerks, Sheriffs, Registers, Coroner, Constables and other County Officers: including the LAWS, FORMS AND PRECEDENTS, BY A MEMBER OF THE RALEIGH BAR.

For sale at the SALEM BOOK STORE.

WE ARE NOW RECEIVING OUR

SPRING STOCK,

and offer to our friends the newest and most fashionable

STYLES OF DRESS GOODS,

PRINTS, FANCY GOODS, NOTIONS, HOSIERY, TABLE LINENS, &c., &c., &c.

Zeigler's fine

SHOES

for Ladies and Children.

And many other fresh and useful goods at greatly reduced prices.

PATTERSON & CO.

Salem, N. C., March 12, 1878.

CHROMOS Cheap, Cheaper, Cheapest At the BOOKSTORE.

The People's Press.

LOCAL ITEMS.

MONDAY, a week, the Inferior Court meets.

COLORED BRASS BAND, No. 2, is organizing.

DAVIE COUNTY is clear of debt and tax levies are very light.

SINGER still ahead,—282,912, sold in 1877.

THE YOUNG LADIES of the Academy enjoyed themselves last Thursday, at Friedland.

SALEM CONFECTIONERS do boast, and rightly too, of the most delicious ice cream.

RUBBER HOSE from one end of Iowa to the other, are owned by private individuals.

THE mountain tourists from this section, returned Saturday, brim full of the pleasures of their trip.

FAMILY HELPS are scarce, and applications few. Industrious girls can find ready employment about town.

EPH. BROWN left by way of Mt. Airy, last Thursday, for Burkesville, Tenn., the home of relatives and many friends.

BUT one disturbance marred the harmony of the political gatherings during the campaign. It occurred at Salem Chapel.

CHARLES BUFORD has received the appointment of Express Agent at this place, who has, for some time past, filled the position of Railroad Agent.

COL. ARMFIELD, the Democratic nominee for Congress, delivered able address at the Court-House Saturday and Saturday night.

CAPT. HURT, of Fayetteville, is at the Salem Hotel.

JUDGE CLOUD has also returned to the Salem Hotel.

MRS. J. R. CRIST, Miss ANNA and little LINNIE, are enjoying a week's recreation with friends in the vicinity of Thomasville.

THE citizens of Davie, upon the whole, do not favor a Railroad much, being fearful that a Railroad tax will be levied on the county.

LUNG TESTER, lifting and electric machines, operated in the Court-House Square, pick up many a loose nickle from the curious.

GRAPES are filling out rapidly, and in a few week's time ripe berries can be had. So says Mickey. The vine-clad hills will yield well this year.

EXHORBITANT.—$1.50 to $2.50 per hour only, is the price of a livery turnout if you wish to enjoy the luxuries of a drive these pleasant evenings.

BEWARE of Bankrupt Sewing Machine Companies. The Singer Company is worth 100 million, and owes nobody.

NEW GARDEN, on the line of our Railroad, holds its Annual Fruit Fair on the 8th. Premiums are to be awarded, and the collection of fruits are always fine and varied.

SAM'L MERRILL of Raleigh, in his repeated visits to this section, has become so well pleased that he intends to locate and go into business here. He speaks of starting a livery stable.

FOGLE BROS. are the sole manufacturers of the crates used in peach shipping, charging 20 cents a piece. From 200 to 300 per day; how's that for business. Prices are down now and shipping slacking.

THE HOTELS monopolize a great portion of the poultry market. First come, first served, reasons the producer, as advance agents stationed at the bridge and roads leading into town take first choice.

MORE WATER.—Winston has become alive to the necessity of a water supply. Steps are being taken towards the purchase of Belo's pond, near town, which will furnish an abundance of water. $2,500 is the figure set on the tract containing 20 or 25 acres, pond included.

SOMEBODY entered the stable, near the Salem Mill, where James Hitchcock keeps his horse, on last Saturday night, and taking the animal therefrom rode it no telling where. The animal was found in the stable, Sunday morning, covered with foam and nearly played out. Next thing to stealing.

GREASE THE GRIDDLE, BIRDIE DARLING, is the title of a new song, just out, of which the following is a sample:

"Grease the griddle, Birdie, darling—
Grease it o'er with lambient lard,
Pour the buckwheat batter on it
From the bowl so brown and hard.
And in order that the buckwheats
Be not burned and scorched and sore,—
Bake them on the COOK STOVE, darling,
That we bought at ALLEN'S Hardware Store.

The air to the above beautiful song can be had by calling on Messrs. Nat. Allen, John A. Brown and W. P. Hay, who will take great pleasure in showing you the large stock of Hardware and House-furnishing Goods on hand, and at the same time sell you better bargains than any other house in Western North Carolina.

DR. WM. A. LASH has returned from his Western trip.

MEMBERS of the Silver Cornets! A meeting will be held at your rooms on Monday night, by order of the Captain.

FINISHED.—Messrs. Pfohl & Stockton's new commodious Warehouse, adjoining the east gable end of their store, is completed.

AN excursion train leaves Greensboro on the 6th, for Beaufort. Sea side attractions will induce several of our citizens to join in.

GRAND LODGE, I. O. G. T., meet at Newbern on the 6th inst. Reduced rates on all rail roads to those wishing to attend.

DAMP weather renders tobacco easy of handling and breaks are heavier at the warehouses for the past few days.—Prices vary little.

THE Farmer's and Planter's Almanac will go to press in a few weeks. It is one of the best advertising mediums in the State and business men would do well to patronize its pages. Apply at once.

BEWARE of rebuilt, bogus, and counterfeit Sewing Machines of any make.—Buy the genuine SINGER from the Company's

Winston Branch Office,
A. M. JONES, Manager.

WILL NOT RETURN.—Jno. H. Clewell, teacher in the Boy's School last session, will not return at the opening of this institution. He has accepted a temporal charge of a congregation at Atlantic City, N. J., until the opening session of the Union Theological Seminary, New York. May success attend him wherever his lot may be cast.

CHEAP LIVING.—A family of our town, six in number, for the purpose of testing the cheapness of living here, kept for the past month an accurate account of the outlays in keeping the larder well supplied, not only with life's necessities but many of its luxuries. The sum total was only $15 00.

We doubt whether this can be excelled, by any town in the State, and do believe that a family with a moderate income can live better and cheaper here than anywhere South of the Mason & Dixon line.

RAILROAD MEETING.—Pursuant to notice, the meeting in furtherance of the Railroad between this place and Mooresville, was held in the Court-House, on Friday evening. Col. Alspaugh stated that $4,400 of the $5,000 necessary to secure the charter had already been subscribed, and that the remainder could doubtless be easily secured. As soon as practicable, after the remaining $600 should be subscribed, the route would be surveyed for the location of the road.

PEACH SHIPPING.—Messrs. Conrad, J. E. & S. T. Mickey, and D. A. Spaugh are the principal shippers, at present.

On Saturday evening's train, 206 crates left our depot for the New York market, to which point the bulk of our peaches are forwarded, and as high as $5.00 per crate are received for extra No. 1. Inferior grades bring from $2.00 to $4.75. A new feature in the business is the buying up of fruit throughout the country, crates being sent out and the fruit gathered and assorted before brought to market. Judging from the number we see coming and going each day, the cash distributed in this new enterprise must be considerable.

Slowly, but surely, are our people waking up, and beginning to realize what a glorious section we live in, with abundance of everything and to spare. The climate and soil is ours, and all we need is more attention to those productions which will bear shipment.

FAIR GROUNDS.—A meeting was held in the Court-House last week to take into consideration the establishment of a Fair Ground. Joseph Stockton, Esq., was call to the Chair, and a committee of five appointed to examine into and report suitable places to locate the Fair Grounds, Tuesday evening.

Accordingly, at the appointed time, F. G. Shaum, in behalf of the committee, stated that six different points had been visited, giving a description of the same, prices asked, &c.

The Old Gorrell tract, a mile and a half North of the Court-House, containing some 60 acres, and the Wiles plantation, near Waughtown, are among the the localities mentioned.

About $250 has been subscribed and the citizens of Waughtown pledge themselves to raise $200 additional, should the latter point be selected. Remarks were made by several gentlemen present, but no final decision arrived at,—agreeing to adjourn, to meet again Friday evening, at the Court-House, at which meeting a permanent organization will be effected.

Since the above the following notice has been handed in:

TO THE CITIZENS OF
WINSTON AND SALEM.

You will please take notice that on FRIDAY NIGHT, AUGUST 2ND, at 8½ O'CLOCK, the FAIR GROUND COMPANY will hold a meeting in the COURT-HOUSE at WINSTON, for the purpose of effecting a permanent organization and for other purposes of special interest.

All persons friendly to such organization are respectfully invited to attend.

J. H. STOCKTON,
Chairman, pro. tem.

THOMAS KEARNS and family are visiting in Randolph.

REFRESHING showers and plenty of them, the past week.

A PROFESSIONAL horse trainer was in town this week. Business dull.

CROQUET is a favorite game among the ladies, now.

The PRESS gives it readers 21 columns of interesting reading matter this week.

LARGE watermelons are scarce this year, but little ones in abundance.

$3 will take you to Richmond, on the merchants excursion train.

THE garden cucumber crop was an entire failure. Dry weather the cause.

SOMETHING NEW and good is the Guide Book. Read the ad.

WATER pipes are being put into the Widows' House for washing purposes. A set of water-closets will also be arranged.

ACCIDENT.—At Johnson's bridge, on Middlefork, this county, Amos Dull, while crossing struck the railing of the bridge, knocking off one mule which hung by the breast-chain for some time, until cut loose, when he fell about ten feet among some logs and brush, from which he was extricated considerably injured. But such as that don't often kill a mule.

In a letter from J. D. Tavis, Alsun, Germany, received by relatives last week, he gives times in that portion of the globe as hard and money scarce. The weather is also of such a temperature as to render over-coats not uncomfortable. Mr. Tavis will start for America on the 25th inst.

EXCURSION.—An invitation has been extended to the merchants of Western North Carolina by the business men of Richmond, Va., to visit that city Tuesday 6th, on a special excursion gotten up for that purpose. Free tickets will be furnished each and every one and a sumptuous banquet given in honor of their presence there.

TEACHERS' EXAMINATION.—Mr. S. H. Everett requests us to announce that on Thursday, 8th inst., he will hold teachers' examination at the Court-House, commencing at 10, A. M., and continuing till all applicants are heard. This is the regular appointed time and all who can conveniently do so are requested to be present then.

LARGE SALE.—The largest real estate sale, for years, was that of the late Jno. M. Stafford, on Saturday last. There were 14 separate tracts, embracing over 1,000 acres of land, situated in this and Davidson County. The well known home tract and the mill were bid off by members of the family. On Saturday, August 3d, 270 acres, the old Sandy Flynt tract, on Muddy Creek, 2 miles from Old Town, will close the sale.

AT YADKINVILLE, Wednesday, the close of the canvass was observed by big dinners, big drinks and big speeches from the liberal hearted office-seekers. Our Cornets were to have been in attendance, but failed to make the necessary traveling arrangements.

RETURN.—There is one duty in life many fail to perform,—the return of borrowed property, books, etc. How much better off would we be if our "stray ones" were at home again.—Bring that mattock home. We're on your track.

POULTRY RAISERS, if your pips are subject to the gaps, try the following receipt handed us: Give the chicken about a quarter of a teaspoonful of kerosene and repeat the dose, giving nearly one-half a teaspoonful for the second time. Chickens affected with a disease thought to be cholera, were cured by giving powdered alum dissolved in water.

THE ECLIPSE on Monday came off in due time, as predicted. Armed with a smoked glass and our Almanac we watched impatiently for the "first contact." The clouds loomed up heavily frequently, yet by close attention we witnessed the first approach of the shadow on the western limit of the sun, and for some time watched its rapid increase with considerable interest. The first contact was announced by a flash of lightning and a heavy peal of thunder, not unlike a salvo of artillery. A heavy shower followed, and clouds obscured the sun for about a quarter of an hour, when, through the rifts in the clouds, eclipsed "old Sol" shone forth in somewhat diminished splendor. A light shower falling at one time, we were treated to the unusual spectacle of an eclipsed sun in the West and a beautiful rainbow in the East. Heavy and frequent peals of hoarse thunder, reverberated through space, and the clouds closed and parted like a curtain during the eclipse, making a wierd and ragged appearance, and adding much to the interest of the spectacle. This is the last total eclipse of this century.

DIED.

Near Lewisville, Forsyth county, July 13th, NANCY NICHOLSON, daughter of Lamb Taylor and widow of David N. Reynolds, aged 78 years, two months and 26 days.

VEGETINE
FOR DROPSY

I never shall
Forget the first Dose.

PROVIDENCE.

MR. H. R. STEVENS:—

Dear Sir,—I have been a great sufferer from dropsy. I was confined to my house more than a year. Six months of the time I was entirely helpless. I was obliged to have two men help me in and out of bed. I was swollen 19 inches larger than my natural size around my waist. I suffered all a man could and live. I tried all remedies for Dropsy. I had three different doctors. My friends all expected I would die; many nights I was expected to die before morning. At last Vegetine was sent me by a friend. I never shall forget the first dose. I could realize its good effects from day to day; I was getting better. After I had taken some 5 or 6 bottles I could sleep quite well nights. I began to gain now quite fast. After taking some 10 bottles, I could walk from one part of my room to the other. My appetite was good; the dropsy had at this time disappeared. I kept taking the Vegetine until I regained my usual health. I heard of a great many cures by using Vegetine after I got out and was able to attend to my work. I am a carpenter and builder. I will also say it has cured an aunt of my wife's of Neuralgia, who had suffered for more than 20 years. She says she has not had any neuralgia for eight months. I have given it to one of my children for *Canker Humor*. I have no doubt in my mind it will cure any humor; it is a great cleanser of the blood; it is safe to give a child. I will recommend it to the world. My father is 80 years old, and he says there is nothing like it to give strength and life to an aged person. I cannot be too thankful for the use of it. I am,

Very gratefully yours,
JOHN S. NOTTAGE.

ALL DISEASES OF THE BLOOD.—If VEGETINE will relieve pain; cleanse, purify and cure such diseases, restoring the patient to perfect health after trying different physicians, many remedies and suffering for years, is it not conclusive proof, if you are a sufferer you can be cured? Why is this medicine performing such great cures? It works in the blood, in the circulating fluid. It can truly be called the *Great Blood Purifier*. The great source of disease originates in the blood: and no medicine that does not act directly upon it to purify and renovate, has any just claim upon public attention.

VEGETINE.
I OWE MY HEALTH TO YOUR VALUABLE VEGETINE.

NEWPORT, KY., April 29, 1877.

MR. H. R. STEVENS:—

Dear Sir:—Having suffered from a breaking out of *Cankerous Sores* for more than five years, caused by an accident of a fractured bone, which fracture ran into a running sore, and having used everything I could think of, and nothing helped me until I had taken six bottles of your valuable medicine which Mr. Miller the apothecary recommended very highly. The sixth bottle cured me, and all I can say is, that I owe my health to your valuable Vegetine.

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Cured me when the
DOCTORS FAILED.

CINCINATTI, O., April 10, 1877.

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May 16, 1878-tf.

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Salem, N. C., Oct. 25th, 1877

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Agriculture.

The Wagons.

But few people are aware that they do wagons and carriages more injury by greasing too plentifully, than in almost any other way. A well made wheel will endure common wear from ten to twenty-five years, if care be taken to use the right kind and proper amount of grease; but if this matter is not attended to, they will be used up in five or six years. Lard should never be used on a wagon, for it will penetrate the hub and work its way out around the tenons of the spokes, and spoil the wheel. Tallow is the best lubricator for wood axle-trees, and castor oil for iron. Just enough grease should be applied to the spindle of a wagon to give it a light coating; this is better than more, for the surplus put on will work out at the ends and be forced by the shoulder bands and nut washers into the hub around the outside of the boxes. To oil an iron axle-tree, first wipe the spindle clean with a cloth wet with spirits of turpentine, and then apply a few drops of castor oil near the shoulder and end. One tablespoonful is amply sufficient for the whole. Let the fifth wheel of the carriage alone; if it grates tighten the king-bolt, but keep grease off from it.

Alsike for Bees.

Alsike clover (*trisolium hybridum*) or Swedish clover, is equal, if not superior to buckwheat, while it possesses all of the excellent qualities of the white clover for the production of honey, is accessible to the common black bee, as well as the Italian, and as food for animals is equal to the red clover. This variety of clover is a native of Sweden, but is now extensively cultivated in many places in this country, instead of the red. It has pale red flowers, a somewhat lank stalk, and oval, obtuse leaves, which are smaller and of a lighter green than those of red clover. The flower head growing from the upper leaf joint is globular, and formed of fragrant blossoms supported by stems. These blossoms are at first whitish and upright and subsequently of a pale red, and when the flowering has past become brown and somewhat bent. The manner of sowing and cultivation is similar to that of red clover, and being more hardy than the red clover should be used instead for that advantage alone; yet its great advantage for bee-pasture is an equally valuable one.

What Fertilizer is Needed.

The *Rural New Yorker* says:—

If a farmer does not know what special fertilizer his land is deficient in, and cannot experiment, stable manure is the safest and the cheapest for him. This furnishes all the ingredients of plant food, though probably not in the quantities needed by his crops. This can only be ascertained by experiment. In very small plots, potash, nitrogen and phosphoric acid may be used separately, and the crop so treated which yields most answers the question what fertilizing ingredient the land most needs for that particular crop. An experiment with potatoes may be made at a small expense and may lead to valuable knowledge. Plant one section and use only old stable manure; upon another sow a small quantity of muriate of potash. Fifteen or twenty pounds of this may be purchased for fifty cents, which would suffice for a tenth of an acre. Compare the result of the two crops.

Cider Vinegar.

The following is the mode adopted by some who have large orchards, one of whom assured us that his apples were worth three dollars per barrel for this purpose, as he uses only those of fine quality and good flavor. The cider is kept through the winter till spring, when the process commences. A supply of the best vinegar in barrels or hogsheads is already on hand as a beginning. These have been kept about half full for many years. About two gallons of the fermented cider are added to each barrel at a time, and in a few days two gallons of the vinegar are withdrawn. The bung is always open, and cider thoroughly stirred with the vinegar when added. A regular weekly supply of strongest vinegar is thus obtained through the season. The easiest way is to pump the cider from the cellar below to the vinegar loft above, through a hose pipe. If too much cider is added at a time, it checks the process. We have tried this mode on a small scale with entire success.

Rust in Wheat.

Rust is a fungus that is propagated by spores that are always present in the air, and that as soon as they find a suitable home, germinate and send forth millions of other spores. They are not more prevalent in the air in wet than in dry season, but it is in the wet seasons that the most damage is done to the winter wheat. When wheat plants are in a perfectly healthy state they are proof against the attacks of rust, the flinty coating of the stem presenting no resting place for the fungus. But when the plants are weakened through being grown on land that has been overcropped, or over manured, or through seed of some worn out variety being sown, they become a ready prey to the rust. A shower passing over the crop on a warm day will leave it in just such conditions that the rust spores can attach themselves and thrive.

The English Importation of Horses.

The *Mark Lane Express* says that a new scheme for importing horses on a large scale is put forward in the prospectus of the British Empire Horse Supply Association. It is proposed that the new company should have a capital of £200,000 ($1,000,000), if they can get it, and the horses are to be drawn from the "unlimited supplies which exist in America and Canada." It is intended ultimately to establish a line of large and fast steamers especially fitted for the conveyance of horses, but for the present the company will utilize existing lines of steamships. The project is an ambitious one and deserves to succeed. The council consists of gentlemen well-known in "horsey" circles, headed by Lord Combermere. We have plenty of room for some of the excellent trotting horses of America.

Rabbits and Fruit Trees.

A correspondent of the *Western Rural* says: "I have used various remedies to prevent rabbits from gnawing fruit trees, and the best is the following: Take soft soap and sulphur—not particular as to proportions, so there is enough soap to incorporate the sulphur, so that every part of the mass will readily adhere to the trees. This does not so readily wash off as soap alone, and the sulphur is probably more repulsive than any other cheap and convenient article. Grease, of course, injures trees, and blood, hog, or other livers and entrails, are not always at hand."

Agricultural Notes.

Cattle, sheep and horses should have salt at least as often as once a week.

A pail of milk standing ten minutes in a foul stable is nearly spoiled for wholesome use.

Much of the complaint against commercial fertilizers, is the result of ignorance in the use of them.

Apples and pears will keep and color better and bring a higher price if picked a few days before they are quite ripe.

It is asserted that tomatoes as food for cows improve both the quantity and quality of the milk, and give the cream and butter a rich golden color.

Observe what varieties of early apples, pears, peaches, plums do best on your farm and plant those in preference to any others, however well they may do in other localities.

American agricultural machinery is displacing the heavy farm machinery of Great Britain and Europe. The Sheffield (Eng.) Telegraph states that 50,000 dozen hay-rakes have been ordered by a single firm in that city for the present season.

Farmers should be advised not to try to economize by mowing too close. An old farmer of our acquaintance used to say that he thought "it was better to leave the lower joint for the old brindle cow than to save it for her," and we wonder that all sensible farmers do not heed his advice.

Fruits gathered in the afternoon are less acrid than when gathered in the morning, because fruits are ripened by the conversion of the acid they contain into sugar, and, since this requires the aid of light and heat, the intervening hours between morning and afternoon produce the difference in their ripeness.

Domestic.

THE NEW HOUSEHOLD PEST.—A Connecticut paper gives the following description of the new insect that has appeared to vex housekeepers. The little black, hairy, oval "bug" that has been discovered in residences so plentifully, eating carpets, blankets, furs, furniture, and even the floor, is the larva of a beetle of the dermistidæ family, the most destructive group of known coleoptera, so that housewives finding small bluish-black bugs about the house, with wings plain or marked with a yellow band, should destroy them, by no means letting them escape. They lay their eggs in fissures and at the edges of carpets. These eggs hatch rapidly, and the beetles pass through two stages, larva and pupa, in three weeks, and propagate their species as rapidly as the Colorado beetle. They are less particular than the potato bug, and very much more destructive. They eat anything, from a library book to a safety pin, and are never more serene than when perched on a lump of camphor, taking the fur off a thirty dollar muff. *D. vulpinus*, a member of the same family, was at one time so active among the furs in the warehouses of London that $20,000 was offered for an available destructive agent, without one being discovered. Housewives may save themselves a deal of trouble by inspecting the edges of their carpets, and seeing if the pests are there; also stuffed furniture that is kept covered. One family found them at work in their finest furniture last month, and they are now at work in many woollen carpets. They do not like benzine, but they are as happy in insect powder as a rabbit in clover. It is the worst invader of the household that has yet appeared, and can do more damage in a parlor suit of furniture in a week than a whole army of Colorado beetles can do in a ten-acre lot all summer.

HOUSE PLANTS.—In watering care is necessary. Under the treatment of people of limited experience in window gardening, plants are apt to suffer from a lack of water or from a too-abundant supply; they are either starved or drowned. The result in either case is about the same; the leaves turn yellow, drop off, and the whole plant presents a sickly and forlorn appearance. Nothing is more depressing to a lover of flowers than sickly, starved looking specimens of vegetation. Much less water is necessary in cold than in warm weather, as the plants then grow but slowly. Morning seems to be the most suitable time for watering, and lukewarm water should be used, applied to the surface of the soil. I have sometimes seen it poured into the saucers of pots, to soak into the earth at its leisure; but nature does not perform her operations by such a process, but sends the rain down from above, and probably her example will be safe to follow. The plants should be watered thoroughly, so that the moisture will penetrate to their roots. Those who are constantly dribbling a small supply of water on their plants will not have them in a flourishing condition for any length of time. The reason is obvious; the surface of the soil is kept moist, but the roots perish from want of water. A plant should not be watered until it is in a condition to receive a liberal supply of the element, which being given, it only asks to be let alone for a season. Besides watering the roots, the foliage requires nearly as much attention. Warm baths, showering, etc., are necessary to remove dust and dirt, which are as injurious to the plant as they are to the human race.

VENETIAN FRITTERS.—Pick, wash and drain three ounces of whole rice; put it into a full pint of cold milk and bring it very slowly to boil; stir it often and let it simmer gently until quite thick and dry. When about three parts done, add to it two ounces of pounded sugar and one of fresh butter, a pinch of salt and the grated half of a small lemon. Let it cool in the saucepan, and when only just warm mix with it thoroughly three ounces of currants, four of apples chopped fine, a teaspoonful of flour, and three or four small, well-beaten eggs. Drop the mixture in small fritters, fry them in butter from five to seven minutes and let them become quite firm on one side before they are turned. Do this with a slice. Drain them as they are taken up, and sift white sugar over them after they are dished.

RASPBERRY VINEGAR.—The following makes a delicious summer drink by stirring two or three tablespoonfuls of it into a tumbler of iced water. Fill a stone jar with ripe berries and cover with pure, strong cider vinegar; let stand five days and then strain through a sieve, pressing out all the juice. Allow one and a-half pounds of white sugar to each pint of this juice, and boil until the sugar is dissolved, removing any scum which may arise. Take from the fire, bottle and seal.

DROPPED EGGS.—Have a saucepan of boiling water and drop fresh eggs carefully into the water. Let them stand where they will be hot, but not boil until the whites set. Toast some thin slices of bread nicely, lay them in a dish and pour over a gill of rich, hot cream salted to taste. Take up the eggs with a skimmer, and put an egg on each slice of the toast. Sprinkle a little salt and pepper over and garnish with parsley if you please.

TO CLEAN ORNAMENTS.—Dissolve a little sal ammoniac in spirits of wine and wash the gold in it; or try the following method: Mix some jeweler's rouge with a little salad oil, and with a tooth brush rub the ornament till perfectly clean. Then wash it in warm water with a clean brush and dry it with wash leather.

Scientific.

Volcanoes in the Moon.—It has long been a mooted point whether active volcanoes still exist in the moon. In 1787 Sir William Herschel announced that he had observed three volcanoes in actual operation in different parts of the moon, the diameter of the principal crater being about three miles. Other observers have described similar phenomena, but the prevailing opinion among astronomers at the present time is against the existence of active lunar volcanoes. In May, of last year, however, Dr. H. J. Klein, of Kuln, while examining the moon, noticed a great black crater on the Mare Vaporum, and a little to the north-west of the well-known crater Hyginus. He describes it as being nearly as large as Hyginus, or about three miles in diameter, as being deep and full of shadow, and as forming a conspicuous object on the dark gray Mare Vaporum. Having frequently observed this region during the last twelve years, Dr. Klein felt certain that no such crater existed there at the time of his previous examinations. He communicated his observations to Dr. Schmidt, of Athens, the veteran selenographer, who assured him that this crater was absent from all his numerous drawings of this part of the lunar surface; neither is it shown by Schroter, Lohrmann, nor Madler. Last April Dr. Klein made his discoveries known generally, and they seem to have been confirmed by other observers. The Mare Vaporum, in which the new crater is situated, lies close to the centre of the visible surface of the moon, so that objects in this region are very slightly affected by the lunar librations. It is also a part of the moon which has been most carefully studied by eminent selenographers. Had this new crater of Dr. Klein's appeared in a less well-known region, much doubt would have been felt as to whether it had previously existed or not.

Photo-Engraving.—The Bulletin of the Belgian Photographic Society contains a description of Scamoni's process of photo-engraving. The originals to be produced are carefully touched up, so that the whites are as pure, and the blacks as intense, as possible, and then the negative is taken in the ordinary way, the plate being backed in the camera with damp red blotting paper, to prevent reflection from the camera, or back of the plate. The negative is developed in the ordinary manner, intensified by mercuric chloride, and varnished. A positivepicture is taken in the camera, the negative being carefully screened from any light coming between it and the lens. This is intensified by pyro-gallic acid, and afterwards washed with pure water to which a little ammonia has been added. It is then immersed in mercuric chloride for half an hour, and again intensified with pyro-gallic acid. This is repeated several times. When the intensity of the lines is considerable, the plate is well washed, treated with potassium iodide, and finally with ammonia, the image successively appearing yellow, green, brown, and then violet brown. The plate is then thoroughly drained, and the image is treated successively with a solution of platinic chloride, auric chloride, ferrous sulphate, and finally by pyro-gallic acid, which has the property of solidifying the metallic deposits. The metallic relief thus obtained is dried over a spirit-lamp, and covered with an excessively thin varnish. This varnish, which is a special preparation, retains sufficient tackiness to hold powdered graphite on its surface (the bronze powder now used may be employed instead), which is dusted on in the usual manner. After giving the plate a border of wax, it is placed in an electrotyping bath, and, after a few days, a perfect fac-simile in intaglio is obtained.

An Old Japanese Earthquake Indicator.—In a recent interesting historical paper upon "Destructive Earthquakes in Japan," by Mr. Hattori, of the University of Tokio, is the following description of a curious seismograph, or earthquake register, invented by Choko about 132 A. D.: The seismograph consisted of a copper vessel, whose diameter was eight shaker or feet, and whose convex cover was ornamented with characters, mountain turtles, birds and beasts. In this vessel there was one main piston in the middle with its eight branches, wires and springs. On the outside of this vessel were eight dragon heads, each of them having a copper ball in its full opened mouth. Under each of the dragon heads there was a frog looking upward with its mouth fully opened. The wire works and springs were very skilfully arranged in the vessel, but the cover was closely fitted, and they could not be seen. Whenever the earth shook, one of the dragons dropped the ball, the frog underneath received it in its mouth, and produced a sound. By this means the direction of the shocks was ascertained. Once one of the dragons dropped its ball, but no person near it perceived any shock, and all the learned men of the capital doubted the trustworthiness of the machine; but after a few days a mail arrived from Rosei and reported the occurrence of an earthquake there.

American Antiquities.—The Smithsonian Institution, which has been engaged for more than a quarter of a century in researches into the antiquities of America, and has during that time published many important memoirs on the subject, is about to issue an exhaustive work on American Archæology with numerous illustrations and maps. The Institution, therefore, is anxious to collect from every available source whatever is known or can be ascertained by special investigation, of the antiquities of North America, and it invites the co-operation of all interested in the work.

Humorous.

—Every cat has a fur coat and every dog pants.—*Post.*

—Does a young man with one arm have an off-hand way of doing things?

—Genteel profession—The poorest artist can ask you into his drawing-room.

—One asked why B stood before C. Because, said another, a man must B before he can C.

—A dog in Milwaukee attempted to jump across a well in two jumps. He didn't succeed.

—A Connecticut paper says "the river fell eleven feet," but does not say how badly the river was hurt.—*Post.*

—Sambo, who was at sea, says: "All de passengers was a heavin', and de Capting gub orders for de ship *to heave to.*"

—A correspondent wants to know whether, considering the great utility of the ocean, poets are not wrong in calling it a "waste of water."

—If you put two persons in the same bedroom, one of whom has the toothache and the other is in love, you will find that the one who has the toothache will go to sleep first.

—A man gained a big reputation for patriotism on the Fourth by backing his mule against a high board fence and letting it kick. Even his next-door neighbor mistook the sound for artillery firing.

—A Mississippi mule has been having regular shakes of the ague, and when the chill comes on he goes and tramples on the flower-beds, so as to have some one to warm him up.—*Detroit Free Press.*

—When Beau Nash was sick, the doctor asked him if he had followed his prescription. "No, Doctor, said Nash; "if I had I should have broken my neck, for I threw it out of the second-story window."

—"May the Lord preserve your eyesight," said a beggar-woman to a man with a small nose, who had just given her a gratuity. "Why?" he asked. "Because," said she, "you've no nose to hold your spectacles."

—A leopard and a fox had a contest as to which was the finer creature of the two The leopard put forward its numberless spots; but the fox replied "It is better to have a versatile mind than a variegated body."

—Life Preserving Rules: 1—Never disturb a dog when he is eating. 2—Never interrupt an editor when he is reading proof. 3—Never call upon a housewife when she is up to her elbows in a washtub.—*Exchange.*

—Death comes on sea and land, in the parlor, kitchen, corn-crib, down cellar, on the roof, everywhere. It stands every man in hand to drive his neighbor's hens carefully out of the garden.—*Detroit Free Press.*

—A generous offer: Old Salt—"Be you agoing to paint that there red-topped boat yonder, mister?" Artist—"Yes." Old Salt—"Then mayhap you'll be glad of some of the paint we used on her last week."—*London Fun.*

—They were fishing off the coast, when the fair one of the party pointed to a distance and asked, "George, what kind of a vessel is that?" He leaned over, stole a kiss from her lips, and answered calmly, "That's a fishing smack."

—Too bad!—A newly married gentleman of Mrs J—'s acquaintance on being asked, the other day, what was the difference between a bride and a bridegroom, immediately replied: "Why, one is given away, and the other is sold."

—A lawyer once asked a judge to charge the jury that "it is better that ninety-and-nine guilty men should escape than that one innocent man should be punished." "Yes," said the judge, "I will give that charge, but in the opinion of the court the ninety-and-nine guilty men have already escaped in this country."

—A young man who had practised nightly on a flute fell out of a second-story window a few evenings since, and was carried into the house insensible. Several neighbors who witnessed the accident felt a thrill of joy, and rushed right off for a physician. They were afraid the young flute player might recover.—*Commercial Advertiser.*

—At the corner of Holborn and the Viaduct, London, the following was overheard. The *dramatis personæ* were a stranger in London and his guide. Said the latter, pointing to the equestrian statue of the late Prince Consort, saluting blandly with uncovered head—"He is suppose to have ridden down here through Hatton Garden." "Ah." quoth the stranger, "Is that any reason why he should always have his hat off?"

BACCARAT.

THE FASHIONABLE GAME IN PARIS.

The fashionable game at the Paris clubs is baccarat, which seems to exercise an extraordinary fascination upon many Frenchmen who have not hitherto shown any propensity to gambling. Letter writers say that gambling has grown to be quite a mania in the French capital, owing partly to the example of a number of young noblemen of the highest rank, and partly to the national love of excitement. The baccarat tables are crowded nightly, and the game is often kept up until ten or eleven o'clock the next morning. Many grades are represented there—venerable merchants and bankers are seen side by side with dissolute young men of rank, journalists and literateurs with distinguished savants, actors with speculators on the bourse, theatrical managers with army officers, manufacturers with landed proprietors, advocates with scientists, abbes with physicians, deputies with poets. Baccarat is a sort of French faro, and entirely simple. It somewhat resembles lasquenet, having no other interest than is derived from the stakes. At the head of a long table, divided into two parts by a line drawn lengthwise sits the banker, with several packs of cards in his hand, while the betters stand around him. He draws cards from the pack, putting one for the betters on the right, another for himself on the left, and the party wins whose card or cards bring nine points or the number nearest to nine; each party having the privilege of calling for supplementary cards to improve his number. Some nights single players have won or lost 50,000 to 60,000 francs, which is a great deal for France.

Youths' Department.

About Glass.

"Such a foolish little girl as Alice is, mother; I could hardly get her away from the tea-store down town."

"But, mother, it was so beautiful," said the little maiden, just returned from the rare treat of an evening's walk among the stores, while looking rather reproachfully at her big brother. "It looked like great jewels—green, red, blue and white, only shining and moving just like fire."

"She means the sign above the store, mother; it does look pretty when the gas is lighted; but, then, you know, it's only glass, after all."

"Why only glass, my son?"

"Why, glass is so common; just as common as—windows," said the boy, at a loss for a suitable comparison.

"But common things are often the most beautiful, my dear, and in this case you have put your contemptuousness only before one of the most interesting and useful things manufactured by men. The word glass, which our Saxon ancestors spelt *glaes*, was at first given to all things that could shine. The Germans called amber *gles*, the Swedes termed gold *gels*, and the French called ice *glace*, all for the same reason; while our words glare, glance, glitter and glisten are derived from the same roots."

"What is glass made of?" said Alice.

"Just of sand and ashes, called scientifically silica, and an alkali, with something else called a flux, to make it melt easily—lead, borax, manganese, or some other metal."

"I know how glass was discovered," said Tom; "our teacher told it to us. One day some Phœnician sailors, who had a cargo of soda, landed near the mouth of the River Belus, at the foot of Mt. Carmel, in Palestine. They made a fire to cook their supper, and took some lumps of soda to stand their pot on. The fire was so hot it melted the soda and sand, which ran together, and thus became glass."

"Yes, that is the old story, though a good many people doubt it; but it is certain that glass was made by the Egyptians at least 3,500 years ago, or before the Hebrews came out of Egypt, as we read in the book of Exodus. Glass beads of ancient date are found in the catacombs and among the ruins of Egypt, and, curiously enough, the earliest glass known was that which has been so much talked about of late, blue glass; the Egyptians seem to have originated no other color. Nearly all the nations of antiquity seem to have known about and used glass. It was, of course, among the 'spoils' which the Jews carried up into Canaan; it was made in Rome two centuries before the Christian era, and from thence spread to Gaul or France, Spain, and Britain. The Roman glass was wonderfully beautiful, and possessed a texture more like that of precious stones than can be made at the present day. It was of all sorts of colors, transparent and opaque, and used for all sorts of purposes, the colors being given by metals. Often two or three layers of different colors and kinds were laid closely together, and heated till they united at the edges, and then the outside layer was cut into beautiful and intricate patterns. But the most curious process was the putting together, according to a certain pattern, rods or threads of different colors and shades, and combining them in one rod, which, while it was still warm and soft, was drawn out to any degree of fineness. When this rod cooled, flat pieces were cut off, on the surface of which would be seen beautiful pictures, some of the lines of which were so fine that they can only be seen by a magnifying glass.

"In the Middle Ages, the Venetian glass was the most celebrated. The great cathedral of St. Mark was built in the eleventh century, and as its inside surface is almost entirely covered with mosaics, chiefly composed of glass, a great quantity of glass-workers were drawn together from Asia and elsewhere, and glass-making became the chief industry of the city. The Venetian glasses, cups, mirrors, etc., are all very light and elegant; and there were six different kinds of work in which the workmen, who were all placed upon the island of Murano, and protected by the government, excelled, the chief of which were *vitro di trima* (lace work) *latticino* (with milk-white threads), crackled or frozen, and *avventurino* (speckled with gold)."

"Was glass always used for window-panes, mother?"

"Not so universally as it is now, and yet more than is generally supposed. A fragment of a glass window-pane was found in one of the houses of Pompeii, buried, as you know, only seventy years after the Christian era. During the Middle Ages it was made for windows in all European countries, and was especially applied to churches whose stained or painted glass windows were among their choicest art treasures. I think, my boy, if you were to study the subject a little, and learn how really valuable this 'common' substance has been and still is, you would not again say only glass."

"There is one use of which you have not told us, mother,—telescopes, microscopes, and all that."

"Yes, optical glasses; natural science would still be in its babyhood but for these, and, strangely enough, they were discovered almost as soon as glass was. A lens, which is a piece of glass thicker in the middle than at the edges, was found among the ruins of Nineveh; the Emperor Chan of China, 2,283 years before Christ, is said to have observed the planets through a glass. Spectacles were invented by Salvino d'Armato in Florence before 1317. Cornelius Drebbel invented the microscope in 1572, and Kepler, the telescope, in 1571."

"I should like to see glass made."

"Yes, some time I will take both you and Alice to a glass-house; the process is very interesting. First, the ingredients are pulverized very finely and baked. Then they are melted together, and the melted mass is either poured into moulds and pressed into shape, which is an entirely American invention, or blown into bubbles, and then shaped by the skill and taste of the workmen, and after this every article must be annealed—that is, gradually cooled to prevent their flying to pieces when anything touches them. Sometimes the glass is made very tough by plunging it into hot oil while it is still warm, in which case it may be dropped on a stone floor without receiving any injury. There are six kinds of glass made, each requiring a peculiar fabrication, and a peculiar building and furnace. These are bottle, crown, sheet window, plate, flint, and colored glasses. You would be interested also, I think, in the process of cutting or engraving glass. Formerly this could only be done with a diamond or very hard steel point, and under the pressure some of the very finest and heaviest plates would develope a crack or flaw which rendered them useless; but recently a process has been discovered, called a sand-blast, by which fine, sharp sand is blown steadily against the glass; the curiosity is that a piece of lace fastened on the surface will not be injured, while its pattern will be distinctly cut upon the smooth polished surface."—*N. Y. Observer.*

Sagacity of the Deer.

A Nimrod who has been in the habit of hunting deer in the Adirondack mountains, is of the opinion that the deer is often more than a match for a dog in sagacity. The deer seems to be well aware that the dog is guided by his faculty of scent in tracking him; and all the deer's efforts are directed to baffling and thwarting this keen and wonderful scent with which the dog is gifted.

With this purpose the deer will often make enormous leaps, or run around in a circle so as to confuse and puzzle his pursuers. He will mount a stone wall, aware that the dog cannot scent him so well on the rock as on the grass. If he can find a pond or stream of water, the deer will plunge in and swim a long distance, so that the dog may lose his trail.

It is a joyful sound to the poor, hunted deer, when the dogs send up that sad, dismal howl, which they give utterance to when they lose all scent of the deer, and despair of finding it. He is then a happy deer. He hides quietly in some covert among the bushes, and he will take care to place himself where the wind will carry all odors of his body away from the direction were he supposes the dogs to be.

—Some prominent Bostonians are taking steps to form an association for the advancement of church music in that city. The idea of the movers in this matter is "to improve the character of the music generally, and congregational singing in particular"

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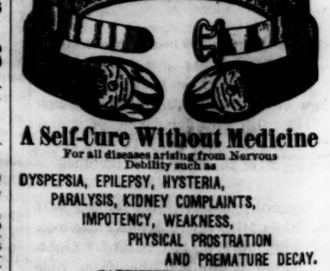

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